

#45

LadyLike

Exploring & Expressing Femininity

The Roxy Issue

Late Bloomer!

**Roxy
Wilson**

**Foxy Roxy:
A Small
Scary
World**

**Roxanne Van Ness:
Sheer
Adventure**

**FlashBack
with Ms Bob:**

**Vicki
Lynn**

**Brenda
Lawrence:**

**The
Dating
Game**

Foto Feature:

**Hot Rods &
Hot Babes**

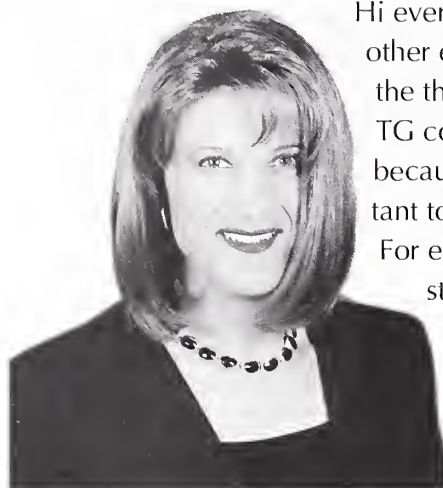
2001

...and photos, photos, photos

US\$12 - Can\$24



Letter From The Editor



Hi everyone. Welcome to another edition of LadyLike, the thorn in the paw of the TG community. I say that because we act as an irritant to get people thinking.

For example, our last issue started a flurry of letters about the "tension" between gay and straight crossdressers. It was sparked by a letter from Sydney who

spoke of a "growing fight between gay and straight crossdressers." JoAnn printed the letter in her column. Jo was nice to Sydney and agreed with her that while she (Jo) doesn't see much tension, perhaps Sydney has had a different experience. The majority of those who wrote to us felt there wasn't *any* tension between gay and straight crossdressers in their neighborhoods.

I think that everyone has missed the real point of Sydney's comments. What she is talking about is homophobia, and homophobia is rampant in our society. The idea that having sexual relations with someone of the same sex is somehow demeaning, unnatural or inferior has been drummed into all of us since we were children. One time, when I was young, about ten years old, my parents told me that some men were "queer." They couldn't tell me exactly what that meant. Consequently, I spent years worrying about it. A little knowledge is often not a good thing. My parents' awareness of homosexuality was limited so they gave me a limited awareness and that lack of knowledge translated directly into... fear. What did these "queer" men do to poor boys like me? Was I going to be attacked in some horrid way at any second? Since I was attracted to wearing women's clothes, did that make me one of "them?" That's no way to learn about the variety of human sexuality and foster understanding between different elements of society.

My naive fear that since I liked girl's clothes I might be one of those "weirdoes" my parents warned me about, is at the heart of why it often takes years for a crossdresser to come out. If society says, "No normal guy would want to dress like a girl" the second thing it says is, "Oh, he must be gay." When we see that perfect dress and it makes us tingle all over, how can we help but feel that there might be something wrong with that feeling and possibly with us? That, Sydney, is why so many of our letter writers go out of their way to say they are

straight — they want to be "normal, not one of the others." The big problem with wanting to be "normal" is that **no one** is normal. Human beings are individuals who have a range of feelings, sexuality and gender expression. Some people are comfortable in certain roles, doing certain things while others are not. It is possible for one person to enjoy a variety of sexual experiences while another is not open to any experimentation at all.

Gay crossdressers may feel that all the talk about how straight some crossdressers are is just an exercise in denial. Since they have come to terms with their attraction to both dressing and the male body they may think that those CDs who protest loudly that they are straight, straight, straight are just not being honest with themselves and everyone else. GLBT people (shouldn't that really be TGLB people?) are part of the larger community and they have picked up the same values and beliefs that others have. While they may come to realize that they are not bad or inferior for being attracted to whom they are attracted to, they may have difficulty understanding that another man may not be interested in sex with men just because he wears a dress and calls himself Debbie. "Debbie" may not be able to understand what the gay crossdresser (or the butch gay man for that matter) finds sexually attractive about male bodies. Both sides need to realize that the other side is not lying when they say what they like. It's important for cooperation within the GLBT community that all of it's members take time to walk a mile in the other guy's pumps.

Of course, there are people who, because of that societal indoctrination I mentioned, have trouble admitting that they are capable of participating in a variety of sexual expressions. There are men who wear women's clothes and profess to be straight while having detailed fantasy sex every night with the man of their dreams. There are men who are turned on by other men, but go out of their way to deny any homosexual tendencies. The existence of these people leads to the formation of Ex-Gay groups and "heterosexual crossdressers only" support groups. Wouldn't life be easier if we could all be who we are, if we could all honestly answer a question about who we preferred to date with the statement, "I like to go out with nice people who are kind, respectful and loving." There is enough judgmental thinking in the world, let's try to keep all segments of the GLBT community a little more open minded.

Now, I can't wait to see the letters we get for next issue. But that's jumping the gun, you haven't even enjoyed this one yet. Dig in! I'll see you next time.

LL

#45 LadyLike

Exploring & Expressing Femininity



Cover photo ©2001
Randi Thomas

In this issue...

Features

Profile: Roxy Wilson 4
This former teamster tells us about her voyage of discovery.
Photos courtesy of Roxy & Randi Thomas.

Foto Feature: Hot Rod & Hot Babes 2001 ... 17
Back for a reprise, one of our most favorite foto features.

It's A Small Scary World 23
Foxy Roxy ventures out New year's Eve and runs into
a family acquaintance. Oh boy, now what?.

The Dating Game 26
Brenda Lawrence tackles a delicate subject for trannies.

FlashBack: The Films of Vicki Lynn 31
A great impersonator featured in two interesting films.

Sheer Adventure 36
Roxanne Van Ness entertains with another true tale.

Departments

Editorial 2
Reader's Letters 10
Mirror-Mirror 24 – 25, 28 – 29, 41, 44 – 45
Resources 38 – 39
On My Mind 46

ISSN 1092-9207 ©2001 CDS, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA USA 19406. Printed in the U.S.A. LadyLike magazine is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October. The publisher is exempt from the record-keeping requirements and disclosure statements mandated by 18 U.S. Code §2257 (a) through (c) and the pertinent Regulations, 28 C.F.R. Ch 1, Part 75 since all of such material falls within the definition of exempted material set forth in §75.7(a)(1-3) of the pertinent Regulations. Any reproduction of the contents of this magazine without the written permission of the publisher is prohibited. All manuscripts are sent at owner's risk and will not be returned. Letters and photos cannot be returned. Publisher does not endorse any advertisements except her own, nor is she responsible for ad content or claims. Caveat Emptor!

Publisher
JoAnn Roberts

Editor
Angela Gardner

Sales & Advertising
LLMag, PO Box 61263
King of Prussia, PA 19406-1263
Phone: 610.640.9449
LLmag@cdspub.com
www.cdspub.com/LL.html

Roxy Wilson



Height: 5'9"

Weight: 190#

Residence: Central New Jersey

Shoe size: 10

Dress size: 18, but I wear a size 12 skirt
(It's the shoulders).

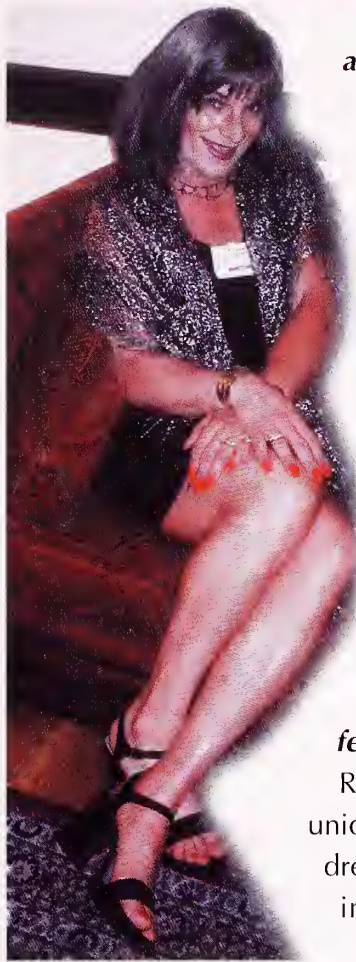
Favorite clothes: 2-Piece separates.
Casuals. Outfits that make me blend.

Favorite things: My two sons, family,
friends, Renaissance, the TG and gay
communities, shopping anywhere for Roxy
as Roxy, passing in public.

Turn-ons: My s/o, my real hair, wearing
make-up and giving makeovers, shoes and
the pretty feet that slide into them, going
out as Roxy.

Turn-offs: Ignorance and prejudice of TG
and gay people, drugs, ugly shoes, women
that don't wear makeup, when I can't fix
my real hair.

Better Late Than Never!



LL: I know it's not kosher to ask a lady her age but since you are so open about your life would you mind sharing your age with us?

Roxy Wilson: Of course not. I'm forty, a heterosexual crossdresser. I'm also divorced and the father of two boys ages 10 and 15.

LL: Many of the ladies we interview have known that they were "different" for many years. A lot of them actually started crossdressing when they were little. Your story is somewhat different, isn't it?

Roxy: My crossdressing saga is unique, I think. I didn't start crossdressing until I was 35 years old, in 1995.

LL: What happened then?

Roxy: I guess it started typically for a crossdresser. I went to a Halloween party dressed as a woman. At the time, I don't think I had even heard of a crossdresser, but I knew something was wrong.

LL: You felt strange when you dressed for the party?

Roxy: It felt something I had never felt before. I was raised very Italian Catholic. We were taught that if you did something this perverse and enjoyed it, you were gay. I was quite upset for 8 months. I couldn't eat, sleep or concentrate on anything except what was "wrong" with me.

LL: You condensed the typical lifetime of CD worry into eight months. After dealing with it for many years most people finally decide they have to talk to someone. Who did you come out to?

Roxy: I choose a family friend in Kansas who also happens to be a psychiatrist. I told him my troubles and after he had a good laugh he informed me that I was a heterosexual crossdresser. I explained to him that I had no idea what he was talking about and he was kind enough to explain it to me, and then suggested I seek a support group.

LL: Did you take his advice?

Roxy: I couldn't bring myself to admit that I had a "problem," so I continued my emotional downward spiral.

One night, I was watching television and completely by chance saw a documentary called *All Dressed Up and No Place To Go*. It was about four heterosexual crossdressers. As I was watching it I couldn't believe how much they all were saying everything I was feeling. At the end of the show there was a reference to the support group Renaissance. I looked for them in the yellow pages, called and spoke to JoAnn Roberts. She immediately made me realize I wasn't alone. That might have been the biggest sigh of relief I ever had. So, even though finding Renaissance would end up being one of the most important things that ever happened in my life, it was really just the beginning of a still long road.

LL: You'd taken that first step. What happened next?

Roxy: I was living with my significant other at the time. We'd been living together since 1993. But, as I said earlier, neither of us knew about Roxy. So, now it was finally time to tell her about my new found feelings. I explained myself and all about Renaissance and my desire to go to a meeting.

LL: How did she react?

Roxy: She became very upset... and so did I. I didn't know where else to turn, so I turned to Renaissance. I called JoAnn Roberts who stuck with me the entire time, giving advice like a big sister, telling me to be patient as this was very traumatic for my s/o as well as me.

LL: So you tried to hold back and not dress up?

Roxy: Eighteen months passed and the feelings were getting stronger everyday. So, eventually my s/o realized this was something I had to do.

LL: There's nothing like living with a frustrated crossdresser. She finally let you out of the house?

Roxy: My first Renaissance meeting was July 1998 and I haven't looked back since. The feeling of finding others like yourself when for so long you thought you were alone is incredible. Renaissance is family to me now. It hasn't taken the place of my genetic family, just become another family of mine. Its hard to explain it, as I don't want to take any feelings away from



*continued on
next page*



my genetic family, but Renaissance and Roxy have become so special to me that I find it hard to put into words.

LL: What about your significant other? How did she handle your new family?

Roxy: She had a lot of trouble dealing with my transgenerism. Sometimes it was the dressing, other times it was the time my involvement with the community would take away from us. I think the hardest thing she's had to deal with is that when we met and fell in love, I was this rough and tough teamster. I won't get into too much about my past, but let's just say that some of my part time jobs had a rather tough guy image associated to them.

LL: Let's just stick with the transgender stuff. Back to how your lady friend dealt with it all.

Roxy: I guess in her eyes my TG side took away from that "manly-man" she fell in love with. By November of 1999 we decided that we needed to live apart to review our feelings about all we'd been through. We always stayed exclusive to each other and never fell out of love.

LL: You wouldn't say that she's embraced it though?

Roxy: Well, in March of 2000 she called me and said she wanted to try to accept my crossdressing as she realized how much this was a part of me. She started coming to Renaissance meetings and even went out publicly with Roxy a few times. We've made great strides in our relation-

ship and are always working on getting to the point where we can move back in together. Our relationship is not much different from most transgendered relationships. It's a constant world of trying to compromise and we're both learning all the time. But one thing I know we've both learned from all of this is that we truly love each other very much.

LL: What about the rest of the world and Roxy?

Roxy: Everyone knows about Roxy. I'm very open with my crossdressing. My children, ex-wife and her boyfriend, her family, my family, my job... everybody! The only ones that don't know are some of my younger son's friends, and that's because as a parent I know how cruel kids can be. He tells whom he chooses to tell and we take it from there.

LL: Do you dress around your kids?

Roxy: I don't choose to dress around my children but I don't hide it either. They look at pictures of me and my older son always shows an interest in where I go and what I do. I always talk to my boys and have a great relationship with them. I always make sure they're okay with what I do.

LL: How do they handle it?

Roxy: My oldest son has gone as far to say that he is proud of all my accomplishments as Roxy. He says it doesn't matter to him how I achieve any success in my life, I'm his Dad and he's proud of me. I love my children very much.

LL: How about your parents, do they accept Roxy?

Roxy: When I moved out on my own after my s/o and I



separated I really had no place to go, so I moved in with my Dad. My mom died in 1999. She was great when I told her about Roxy. She said, "Well, you were always my most handsome son, now you're my prettiest daughter, too." I'll never forget those words and how good she made me feel. I loved my Mom very much and still miss her terribly.

LL: How does your dad like having his new daughter around the house?

Roxy: My father has been incredible to me. He has tried so hard to understand what I do and why I do it. He helps me when I need to be zipped and will tell me if something looks right on me or not.

LL: What more could a young lady ask for? He seems to be pretty cool with it.

Roxy: Don't get me wrong, he has his moments when he's had enough, but for the most part he's been phenomenal. He's never given me a bad time even knowing that I'm open about Roxy. When a neighbor sees me or says something to him, he just very calmly tells them that I'm a crossdresser and he has no problem with what I do.

LL: Other than talking to your psychiatrist friend have you sought professional counseling?

Roxy: I started seeing a therapist in September 1999. There were several reasons that I wanted to talk to someone, but one reason, important to this story, is that because once I started going to meetings and dressing more, I began



having flashbacks, serious flashbacks of young me crossdressing that would wake me up in the middle of the night.

LL: So you actually had started crossdressing back then.

Roxy: I had memories from as young as ten of dressing in my sister's clothes. Having six older sisters, it wasn't hard finding something to wear. At the age of thirteen my last sister got married and moved out. I didn't have any buried memories of crossdressing from after that time. The therapist told me it was very normal to block it out when I was raised to believe all that was wrong.

LL: It also makes it all deep dark secret stuff. It's no wonder that some people actually manage to keep the secret from themselves. Were you able, as a child, to hide it from your friends?

Roxy: I told my friend Robert about my crossdressing recently. I've been friends with him since we were 14. He just stared at me and said, "That answers about 10 questions I've always had about you." I asked him what he meant and he explained that I was always a little odd that way. He told me things I did that I never noticed.

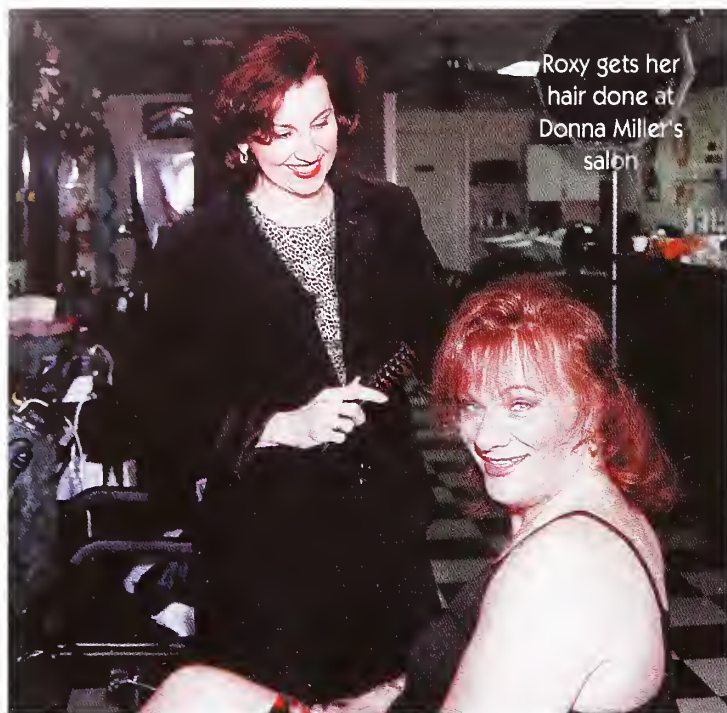
LL: Like what?

Roxy: At parties I was always in the room with the girls, talking about makeup and things like that. I always liked "chick" movies and was very sensitive. Robert remembered his wife (his girlfriend at the time) calling me and asking me



Roxy & Donna
Miller at the
Fourth
Congress on
Sex & Gender.

continued on next page



to go shopping. A lot of my friend's wives did that because I loved to shop and would help them pick out clothes and everything. When I asked him why no one ever told me these things bothered them, he explained that they all trusted me... and they were a little afraid of me. I had this reputation of being a little "dangerous."

LL: Uh oh, let's not go there, girl. You're not in the witness protection program, are you? No, don't tell me. Back to crossdressing.

Roxy: In some respects I guess my therapist is right and Roxy has always been with me. Once I found Renaissance I really began to make up for lost time.

LL: Any important milestones?

Roxy: My first year at "Paradise at the Poconos" in 1999. Going to the Poconos was, for me, like metaphorically walking through a door. That was when I truly accepted that I was transgendered. It was a gigantic feeling of relief. That's when I really started becoming a working part of the community that meant so much to me.

LL: You're currently a member of the Renaissance National Board of Directors and the Greater Philadelphia Chapter leadership. How did you get started in your volunteer efforts?

Roxy: I became the "Meet and Greet" girl for my local chapter of Renaissance. Then I started writing a monthly column for the chapter's newsletter and doing meeting reports for the Renaissance Greater Philadelphia Chapter web site. From there I had a couple of stories published in Transgender Community News.

LL: You really jumped in with both pumps.

Roxy: I was feeling more alive then I'd felt in a long time. I was reading everything I could get my hands on about the community. I also was making friendships that are still the greatest friendships I've ever had. I spoke for Renaissance about TG issues at a college and soon after was asked to join the National Board of Renaissance.

LL: A public speaker, too. Have you done any talks that you really enjoyed, or you feel stand out?

Roxy: I think my personal favorite was being asked to do a one-hour guest appearance on a local radio talk show and discuss my transgenderism. That was a thrill I'll never forget. All my friends were listening and everyone said they loved the show.

LL: You have mentioned your macho image and your job as a truck drivin' man. I know you are, in fact, a teamster.

Roxy: I've been a teamster for 22 years.

LL: That's why I call you "the teamstress."

Roxy: Ha,ha, very amusing.

LL: Sorry about that. Don't hurt me. What are your plans for the future?

Roxy: I'm going back to school taking a course on radio and media and seeing what comes from that. Who knows, I could be the next Ru Paul.

LL: Don't go all celebrity diva on us.

Roxy: Oh, I'll never forget my roots and Renaissance. I'd love to become more involved with my community except



for the fact that my life is very hectic. Between my s/o and my children I'm always running around. But for now I do what I can and hope I make a difference. Through the monthly meeting summary for the Renaissance web site I get people emailing me all the time. They tell me everything from how alone they feel and about wanting to come to a meeting. I answer all their letters with kindness and try to give all the help and compassion I can. I find this part of what I do the most rewarding.

LL: You spoke about your Renaissance family. Do you have any special sisters you've met there?

Roxy: I've made so many friendships through Renaissance and several close personal relationships that mean so much to me. There's a small group of us, Sarah, Amanda, Kerry, Melissa and myself. We still talk about how we all seemed to meet at the November '98 meeting. We've formed such a bond that it feels like a genetic family. We've gone out in our guy modes and met each other's families. We always talk and help each other when one of us needs a shoulder. We go out together to many places and share a tight bond. That might be the greatest thing I've gotten from Renaissance. These wonderful people and their friendship. I love them all. But it's still amazing to me that this community seems to have no boundaries. I've become friends with so many people in so many different walks of life that I feel it's broadened me as a person and opened my eyes to a world only select few get to see. I'm proud of my community. I also met a very special person who I must mention because she's done the most to help Roxy become all she is today. Her name is Donna Miller. She's a genetic female who is probably the best friend I've ever had.

LL: Hey, she was my hairdresser first, ya know.

Roxy: Well, I met Donna at the Poconos in 1999. Roxy wasn't as "refined" as she is today and as I found out later, Donna was a little afraid of me. But she was at the Poconos as a vendor. I found out that her salon was only 20 minutes from my house so I made arrangements to see her when we got home, to have her clean my wig. Well, before you knew it we began to get better acquainted and found our lives to be very similar. We go to New York together and I help her buy things for her shop. The more we've gotten to know each other, the better friends we've become. She's helped me with shopping for clothes, accessories and has even gone as far as helping me tone Roxy down and become more of a lady.

LL: When is she going to do that? Just kidding! No violence, please! Back to Donna...

Roxy: I'm thrilled with not just the results of the toning down and the hair and makeup, but the way Donna has made me feel around her. I feel like Roxy. I feel like a woman when I hang out with her. We've gone everywhere and Donna has shown me that I can go out in public and just blend. Oh sure, you will always get read here and there, but Donna has taught me that it doesn't really matter as long as you feel good about yourself. Donna is comfortable with me either way and so am I. So when I can get dressed I do and when I can't, that's fine, too. I started going to her church and actually feel like I've found a religion that I can be comfortable with again. I could go on and on about Donna, but I hope you get the picture. We're closer than friends, we're family. She's a very important part of my life and I couldn't be happier with our relationship.

LL: We've covered a lot of the good stuff. Are there any negatives in your life that are caused by Roxy?

Roxy: I really haven't got any sad stories other than the couple I've already mentioned from my past and with my s/o. Like I've said, I've always been very open about Roxy and accepted fairly well. There are some funny stories but I would need four more pages of LadyLike for that. My greatest thrills so far have been the radio show and my stand-up appearance at the Poconos.

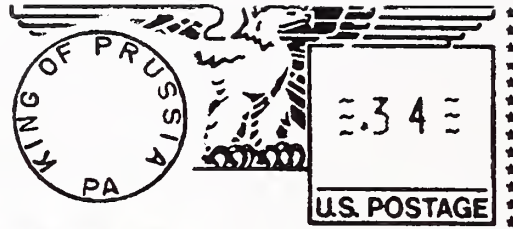
LL: Any final thoughts?

Roxy: I hope in the future to attend more functions and become as vocal a spokeswoman as I can become. **LL**



Roxy & Grae Phillips at the Fourth Congress on Sex & Gender

Letters



Glad We Waited

Hi! I'm so glad you decided to issue another call for photos of CD's and their cars. I elected not to participate in your first feature because I felt pics of my 1993 Ford Taurus and me just wouldn't do it for your readers.

But now I've got the perfect car for this feature. A red 1990 Mazda Miata which I recently acquired. I've been having the time of my life driving it! The sun, the speed, the stereo — it's a real joy to drive. And it's true that convertibles really make you feel like a pretty girl, even when I'm not dressed! I did find time, with all this fun I'm having, to take some pictures of me and my new toy. You've got to admit the car is really cool looking! And I'm sure you'll want to publish more than one photo; I've enclosed three.

Again thanks for allowing me to grace the pages of your wonderful magazine. Hope to see you soon!
Melissa Franks

P.S. Looking forward to Paradise in the Poconos!



Don't Know How She Missed Us!

I feel like such a dumb Dora! This girl has been around the block a few times, yet how in this woman's world did I miss your marvelous, maiden slanted magazine?

Kicking my silk-panties derriere (with a 5" stiletto-thin, pointed-toe pump) is what I deserve for allowing my luxurious lady-living to lapse sans being in the feminine flow with LadyLike! Ah, what girlish, glorious joy thrills through my smooth, shapely bod as I, intensely, read the articles, and, passionately, gaze at the glamorous photos, and, delightfully, respond to the ads.

Miss Brenda Lawrence's very interesting article possessed an intelligent introspective regarding our specialized social life. There are MANY paradoxical facets to attaining sexual satisfaction. The quizzical theme of sybaritic identification, "bi, gay, straight, tri, homo, etc.," continually confronts us, but no one label can be pinned on any one girl! The gist of our damsel destiny is not "where-does-it-end" but "Honey, it has just begun!"

Sweethearts, you may publish as many pictures



as your tasty heart desires. After all what American girl doesn't love to flaunt her womanly wares?

Ciao, Loads of love, Laura Cynthia

Gender Doin's in Germany

Thank you for your gentle reminder. In the envelope you will find my check for the next four issues [of LadyLike]. Since my visit to the [Paradise in the] Pocono event in 1998 many things have changed. I am now an active part of the Cologne transgender scene. Last year, friends and I started an Internet project called "transgender-net" (<http://www.transgender-net.de>). It is now the biggest German information platform about all transgender issues except porno.

The second thing I am involved in is the "Gender Change Party." The party is based in Cologne and is held every three month. Last time over 200 TGs joined us. Maybe the next thing will be a German Pocono weekend. Many thanks to you and your staff for your wonderful LadyLike Magazine.

Best wishes. Kerstin M., Köln, Germany

Having Fun In Milwaukee

First of all, thank you for such an excellent magazine dealing with expressing our femininity. Hats off to you, JoAnn, and everyone at LadyLike. I am sending my renewal for another year's subscription. So, keep up the hard work. I know you and your staff will do your best to keep up such a class act.

Since I have been receiving LadyLike, I have been to Fall Harvest in St. Louis, meeting many nice sisters there, and enjoying all the fun with everyone from the hotel staff and the information I received there.

I also joined the local gender group, Gemini, her in Milwaukee. If anyone knows of a place I can send

my photos to be developed without going to a local drug store, or discount store, I would love to know where. After reading issue #44, I had to laugh at Brenda Lawrence and Rachel Simm's articles on buying wigs and going out. It's something how much we all have in common. So keep up the good work. Till next time, be good.

Janet Matthews

Angela replies: Thanks for your many accolades. We do our best. As far as photo developing goes, I used to drive to another part of my area and use a place that I never used for my regular developing. That was back in my closet days. Then I realized that they don't have time to look at every photo they process so chances are no one will notice anything funny about your's. If you take them to a discount store you don't usually frequent, drop them in the processing bin with a fake name, no one will be able to connect you to them. The folks at the lab are too busy working and looking at the prints of somebody's naked girlfriend to pay any attention to you. But, if it's still too tough to do at a local place there are mail in photo developing places. Any body out there have one they like that we can share with Janet?

Glad She Found Us

Enclosed is my check for one year subscription to

Leslie Adams



your very lovely magazine and a photo of myself with my mailing name and address on the back. This will be my first step out of the closet and is something I have wanted to do for some time.

I was concerned about the integrity of which organization to associate with and I feel you will satisfy my desires, fears and questions. I purchased LadyLike #41 from a magazine distributor and am very glad I did. My name is Leslie Adams and I'm 52 years of age. I started dressing later in life as the opportunity allowed, but I have known since my teen years of my longing to look and feel feminine.

I am very eager and excited about meeting others and possibly getting out to attend some of your functions. I welcome any material, encouragement or criticism you may want to share with me and I look forward to receiving my first issue of LadyLike. Perhaps one day I'll even be thrilled at seeing one of my photos displayed in Mirror- Mirror.

Thank you for being here for me and let me tell you again how lovely your magazine is. I love it!

Sincerely, Leslie Adams, PO Box 1649
Washington, PA 15301

Angela replies: Welcome to the fabu world of femme fun, Leslie. The only critique I would give on your photo is... smile! Most of the time the very best and most feminine shot is the one in which the girl is smiling. And, if you want to meet folks the event we host is Paradise in The Poconos, but there are many others year round. We run an event calendar operiodically. If you want to meet people in the Pittsburgh area you should contact Trans Pitt. Their contact info is in our Resource section. Have fun!



goal oriented girl to one who tries to grow in little steps everyday. Well, as usual here are a couple of my latest pics taken this week.

Thank You so much as always, Alison Robins

Angela responds: You are right Alison, getting in touch with your femininity is a process not a contest. Too many members of the community start getting manly tendencies concerning competition over who is the most beautiful, etcetera. That's not what it's about. Having said that I can get a little bit catty and say, no girl sits like that. As your journey continues, think demure.

Heavy On The Mail

Enclosed is a photo for your new Hot Babes With Hot Rods issue. Your last one was a big hit with (my) mail box but not with my mail person. I got the most mail ever from that picture. Love your magazine, keep up the great work.

Sincerely, Krissy Marie
K.M.S. (3174) 360-23 W. Schick Rd.
PMB 177 Bloomingdale, IL 600108
See Krissy and her car on pages 17 & 19.

She Loved The Last Issue

I received my copy of LadyLike #44 the other day and I read your "Letter from the Editor" with interest. Like you said in it, "honesty is the best policy, " and (the ancient warning) "if it sounds too good to be true, it's probably not true." Your comments on "herbal estrogens" and in particular, Black Cohosh, dispel a fog of misinformation. I think your editorial is one of the best I've read. The Profile on Guava Chiffon was very informative. The name is certainly different and memorable. In that Profile Candis Cayne was mentioned. She was featured in the HBO documentary, Drag Time. She's amazing.

Mirror-Mirror is a glorious gallery of gorgeous girls (excuse the alliteration). I want to thank you for including my photo in the last issue. The Reader's Letters are always worthwhile. For those of us still in the closet, having a letter (and photo) in LadyLike is a type of "coming out."

The Little Known Facts About Hosiery article I found helpful, especially about moisturizing hands before dressing and to "avoid shoes with Velcro

closures." In JoAnn's "On My Mind" column she mentions "...tension between gay and straight cross-dressers." Hopefully the things we all have in common will out number the differences. But on some issues, individuals may just have to agree to disagree and remember the old saying, "United we stand, divided we fall."

As far as politics goes, it's best to be aware that both the right and the left can, in their own ways, pose threats to individual liberties. It's not a perfect world and legislation has been known to have unintended consequences. Judges may interpret the law in ways that its drafters never imagined or intended.

Anyway, thanks for a great issue. If we (including those like myself still "in the closet") don't look after ourselves, who will? I look forward to the next issue.

Love, Beverly

Opinions Not Advice

As always, thanks tons for publishing my photo and letter. I continue to make contact with so many nice girls because of you and continue to grow as Alison. As I grow and develop into who I really am I now find so many girls are coming to me for advice. I say I don't give advice only my opinion... who am I to tell someone else what is right for them? I'm still growing my femme side every day and feel I will forever. I always remember what a girl told me very early on, "Don't keep making dressing goals all the time for yourself. It's a continuing journey that you will be on all of your life." Well, that may sound kind of corny but I got the idea and it changed me from a

Still Chicken

As an avid reader but not yet a subscriber, I commend you and your staff on your fabulous magazine. I've written some to the girls in my area but not all have replied one way or the other. I'm sure all mags that offer correspondence are the same way.

Brenda Lawrence and I have had a correspondence for over a year now and she's been trying to get me to go out, but I'm still chicken. Everyone would love your mag to come out more often, but everyone knows it's very hard and costly. One alternative might be to publish a Mirror-Mirror edition once or twice a year. All the girls love to see pictures of themselves and others.

Sincerely, June Maddon

Angela says: Being a resident of Chicago you have no excuse for not being out there with the girls in The Chicago Gender Society or the Chi Chapter of Tri-Ess. We won't even talk about you not being a subscriber... I'll see what our exalted publisher has to say about some photo only specials. Of course, she's the one who has to scan the pictures.

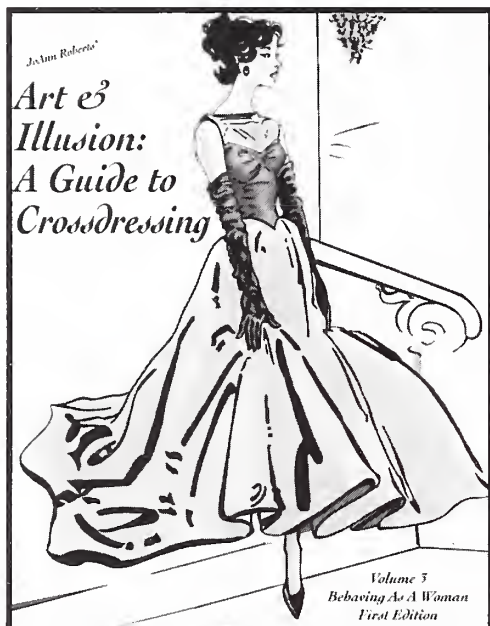
JoAnn says: We used to do Photo Annuals but it confused a lot of people about our issue numbering, so we stopped.

Other Reader Missed The Point

Hi, my name is Jackie B., from out in southern California. I just received my copy of LadyLike and felt compelled to write you concerning your "on my

continued on page 13

Finally! Art & Illusion Vol 3.



Behaving As A Woman

Six years in development and now available for immediate delivery.
Order your copy, only \$17.25*

SPECIAL — Order all three volumes:
1 — Face & Hair,
2 — Fashion & Style, and
3 — Behaving As A Woman...
for just \$41.50* the set.

CDS

PO Box 61263

King of Prussia, PA 19406

www.cdspub.com

*includes 15% for postage & handling



**Watch Katherine Claire
transform Bob into Audrey
Live on the World Wide Web**

Available Now

www.crisscross.net



Criss/Cross CONSULTANTS

Houston, Texas

(713) 768-2622

email - crscross@insync.net

Weekend Get-A-Way

Spend the weekend as a woman!

wear attachable breasts* girls day out* makeover* lessons* photos
dining and dancing, an 18 hr. female experience you'll never forget!

All Day Get-A-Way

Spend the day as a woman!

makeover* intense lessons* photos* outing...8 hrs. as a woman

Finishing Touch Package

For those who absolutely must pass!

7 hour advanced training* real life test

- Transformations
- Shopping trips
- Glamour photography
- Lessons in femininity
- Personalized video
- Image assessment



Do you want breasts like Audrey's?

These attachable silicone breast forms are the highest quality offered anywhere. You can easily purchase them by telephone with your credit card. They will be sent to your address discreetly packaged via UPS. Please know your bra size before calling. Katherine Claire personally guarantees your satisfaction.

Letters...

mind" section about the controversy between straight and gay crossdressers. (issue 43) Sydney seems to think there was a fight between straight and gay crossdressers and referenced Roxy's article (issue 43). I had also written a letter which appeared in that same issue about "dating the same sex." along with you, I have not noticed any real issues between



straight and gay crossdressers out here on the West Coast. I am very curious how Sydney came to this conclusion or found reference to it in Roxy's article. I guess the real point I am trying to make is that I feel Sydney is missing the whole point about crossdresser sexuality. As crossdressers, we are no different from any other segment of society (at least in California, or Californicate, as some Easterners call it). We all fit into the five basic sex groups. Yes, there are five groups in California. We all come under the same umbrella, alternative life stylers. As CD's we all dress for the same basic reason. It makes us feel good. I know that's over simplified, but we need to keep it simple. As individuals, we all have our sexual likes and dislikes just like the other four groups, which includes heterosexuals. Out here, we don't look at each of the other groups as gay, bisexual, lesbian, straight, etc., we are simply doing the things we like. More and more, we are finding the groups intermingling and enjoying it. Much of the cohesiveness is a direct result of people like you who educate the public and give us girls that extra push we need to get out of the closet. But there is also an economic factor. The last 3-4 years has brought about a big change in the alternate life style clubs. The bar owners of "gay" clubs have realized the popularity of CDs and their admirers and as a result now have special CD nights 3-4 evenings a week. Many of the

shops are becoming CD friendly and are now carrying the larger sizes (for us unfortunate girls). But the real sign of change is in the straight and macho swinger's clubs. Yes, there are such places and legal (in California anyway). I take pride in being a member and that I as an individual crossdresser was able to make crossdressers welcome and sought after by management and patrons. It's a long story, but now the club has special fantasy fetish night every other month. Each time, more and more of the macho men are showing up dressed to kill. The attendance has risen from 100 couples to over 200 couples on these special nights. In case you didn't catch it I said "couples." It's a couples only club. Most of the women love it and a few have even come dressed as men. The members of these clubs are main stream America (California). They are doctors, lawyers, judges, policemen, secretaries, teachers, construction workers, you name it. One person's voice, manner of dress or vote, can make a difference. Remember this last election! It may have sounded like I strayed from the original topic, but it is all one in the same. It all boils down to acceptance and how to effect change without friction. It is happening out here on the West Coast and hopefully the cohesiveness will spread to Sydney's area. JoAnn: I know I have probably rambled on too long for an article in your Letters section, but I just had to try and explain that people on the West Coast are learning that "sexuality transcends gender." It doesn't matter what label is being used. Out here we look and interact with people not labels. If you can edit this down to fit in your letters section, I would love to hear from any of your readers (pro or con). I am also enclosing a photo in the event you might want to print it with this letter. You and your magazine have changed my life for the better, both as a masculine man and as a feminine female. Yes, you can have it both ways. I sincerely thank you for all the work and effort you and your staff have put into this great magazine. Jackie B., PO Box 312, Nuevo, CA 92567

LL Still The Best

I can only echo the sentiments of all who subscribe and/or buy your publication, which continues to be the best I think for girls like us. So here's my money where my mouth and heart is for another interesting year in your company. Just began to read



issue #44 and after reading Angela's editorial, I had to stop and sit down to send this check on to you. So glad Angela is sensible too, among her many other femme attributes and masculine ones also. Wishing all the very best for the coming year and beyond.

Yours sincerely, Carlotta

PS to JoAnn: Looked through the archives and happened upon the enclosed photo of me smiling and showing a bit more of moi, which I hope would adorn an area in Mirror/Mirror of a forthcoming issue. Will continue to smile more often too.

Angela says: Sensible? Me? Nah!

My Dearest Angela and JoAnn,

I haven't corresponded for a while as I had a hectic year. Two jobs kept me busy, 55-60 hours per



week. I barely had time to dress, (at least once a week though) but attended a lot of pageants helping my friend Avona (she's got the pageant bug this year). My third job, my most enjoyable, performing, was rare but exhilarating when I was able to. We did a few gigs as the Hollywood Stars. It's an offshoot of the Cosmetics and Lipstick Girls. I'm coming to the end of four weeks off and while cleaning found a stash of photos. I'm enclosing a variety, including a group of photos from a night out at Lips in NYC, the night after Thanksgiving. I was lucky enough to be in the area (my sister's in NJ) so I took advantage. My friend Tricia and I had a blast. The crowd was fun and the staff tremendous. They were entertaining and friendly. I still remembered the article you did in one of the first issues I purchased from you. Anyway ladies, I just wanted to say hello and touch base. You know you are welcome Maui anytime. Enclosed are a group of photos from Lips.

Much aloha and love Breeze Bergan, PO Box 10322 Lahaina HI 96761

PS: I apologize to all the girls who wrote me this past year. I will do my best to improve my communication in the new century.

continued on page 15



The Dressing Room



42310 Hayes Road – Clinton Township MI 48038

CD Boutique, Wig Shoppe & Transformation Salon

Friendly Personal Service – Understanding Supportive Staff

A Complete Shopping Experience For The Discriminating Cross Dresser

Join us on the third Saturday of each month in our private party loft for:

Lady's Night

810-286-0412 • dressroom@aol.com
www.mslisasdressingroom.com



*A Magazine
For Us!*

**TRANSGENDER
Community
NEWS**

**The
MONTHLY**

**source for news, info and
entertainment for the Transgender
Community.**

Get **12** issues, that's **12** months of TCN
for just **\$40!** Fun columns, interesting
articles, TG news – in your mailbox
every month.

Send a check or money order to
Renaissance, 987 Old Eagle School
Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, PA 19087

Or sign up online!

<http://www.ren.org/tcn.html>

Published by The Renaissance Transgender Assoc., Inc.

Southern Comfort 2001

September 17th-23rd, 2001

Due to the rapid growth of the conference, Southern Comfort is moving to mid-town Atlanta for 2001. We have relocated to a huge, luxurious, and super T-friendly hotel. Rooms are still only \$99 a night!

Sheraton Colony Square Hotel 188 14th Street NE at
Peachtree Atlanta, Georgia 30361 (404) 892-6000 (404)
872-9192 (Fax) (404) 733-6975 (Reservations Fax).

To register for SCC write to SCC, P.O. Box 77591,
Atlanta, GA 30357-1591, or email to: info@sccatl.org.

Visit the SCC website at www.sccatl.org

Letters...

Famous The World Over

I just had to write and let you know that you and your organization are famous all over the world. I have just returned to Canada, having spent the past ten years in Europe, mostly in Holland. It was there with the help of some good friends that I was able to find my "true self." Since returning I have been unable to connect with any friends here. I realize that I am living in a very conservative community but I feel so all alone. I'm really just starting out on my crossdressing experiences and need someone to take me under their wing. If you know of anyone or any organization here in Ontario I would be very happy to know.

Love, Pamella

Angela replies: Like anyone who wants to have fun in your area of the Great White North you will have to go to Toronto. I had a lovely time there one evening in a place called The World's Most Dangerous Bar. But, you're probably not ready for that. Try Xpressions (CD/TS/SO), PO Box 223, Station A, Toronto, Canada, M5W 1B2. Their phone number is 416-410-6949. There is, of course, The Wildside, which offers transformation services and a hotel where you can stay. They also advertise in LadyLike so you know they're good. Call them at 416-921-6112. Have fun, eh.

More On Straight v. Gay

Well girl, you did it again, another great issue of LadyLike. I just got done reading On My Mind. Well, I correspond with about twenty girls all over the country (and) never once did I ask if they were



straight or gay, nor them ask me. I don't think that is our problem. We as a group don't stick together. Since my coming out in September I now want to get involved with our TG community but I don't know how to go about it.

Maybe you could help me. I don't belong to any support groups. I wrote to a couple of them in Florida but no response so I gave up on them. As I said before, issue #40 was my first LadyLike. It's a great magazine and I want to be a part of it. LadyLike made it possible for me to leave the closet.

Thank you JoAnn Roberts and Angela Gardner

for making the most classy magazine for girls like us. Long live LadyLike.

Yours truly, Alison Van Horn, PMB 350, 15 Paradise Plaza Sarasota, FL 34239-6905

Angela says: Don't worry Alison, you're a part of our LadyLike family. I'm sorry you have had trouble connecting with a local support group. The big problem with the TG support scene is that all too often one or two people end up doing all the work with a group. If they get distracted by more important things, like making a living or something mundane like that, they may have to let the group slide for a while. Don't give up on trying to contact them. Keep sending a note every so often, and make sure you have the latest addresses. Check our Resource section. Often groups change addresses with their leadership and the new address doesn't get out to the people who need it. Good luck.

A New Sport – Drag Hiking?

I love your fabulous magazine! It's informative, insightful, colorful and classy! I'm interested in seeing more editorials on T-girls who are doing extraordinary things for society, what they do for work, and



how they play. I love the outdoors. I'd like to be that naturally beautiful girl! out there hiking, snow boarding or mountain biking.

I'm a recovering workaholic who's discovered the need for balance in my life. I have my work, activities, but have this constant need to be this girl that is me. I am also interested in information on how to raise money for a charity. I want to thru-hike 2600 miles (in 4-6 months) the Pacific Crest Trail raising money for AIDS vaccine.

I'd love to meet girls along the way too. Interested? Let me know.

Keep it real, Natasha, Seattle WA
twiceasnaughty@hotmail.com

Angela responds: You certainly look lovely in

the outdoors but hiking is not my thing. How can you hike in pumps anyway? The type of fund raising you want to do involves contacting a local AIDS charity and talking to them about your plan. You will have to get people to sponsor you, donating an amount of money for every mile you walk. The charity should be able to help you with the planning. Good luck and be careful.

First Dress Hooked Her

I gradually got into crossdressing about five years ago and now I'm an incurable CD. I was always into women's magazines for my early teens, taking my mothers copies to read and enjoy.

Then I started ordering lingerie and clothing catalogs and thought, "Why not try some on!"



After trying on my first dress I had a lady pick out for me, I was hooked. It felt so sexy and feminine. I wanted ladies to see me in it. Then, I got into lingerie — bras, panties, girdles, pantyhose and stockings, slips, and nightgowns. I love bras especially. Underwires are my favorite and I wear them with my breastforms. I'm a 40C bra size and size 18 dress.

I'm proud to wear women's clothes and so glad there's LadyLike magazine with ladies who feel as I do. (I'd love to meet JoAnn Roberts.)

I invite all CDs to write me and I'll write you.

Hillary K., PO Box 402, Whitesboro NY 13492

JoAnn Replies: Ah yes, your's is a familiar story. That first piece of clothing, be it a dress, a pair of panties, stockings, a slip, whatever, leaves an indelible memory. Truth be told, I think more of us get hooked by the lingerie more than anything else. I know I have a soft spot for garterbelts and jet black seamed stockings. (I know, I'm a tramp at heart.)

At first, I was tempted to correct your "incurable" to "incurable" but then I decided you were correct. We are incurable because we don't want to be cured of our feminine persona.

We're glad that we could be here so you do not feel so alone. However, you should consider getting out to one of the many events in the community. If you want to meet me, you have the best chances at my Pocono weekend or at Southern Comfort in Atlanta.

LL



Psst...
instead of hiding in the closet
come visit us in our closet

Sami's Closet

*There is a real person to talk to at Sami's Closet,
 your complete super store
 for all your dressing needs.*

SamisCloset.com

© 2001 Sami's Closet

The WayOut **Tranny Guide**

NINTH EDITION

(the book)

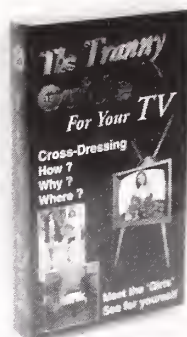
"Often referred to as *The Tranny Bible*"
 Over 300 pages aiming to excite, inspire,
 comfort and spread awareness of the global
 nature of the transgender phenomena,
 through many new articles, over 1000 new
 pictures and 1500 updated listings of shops,
 services and places to go.

PLUS many exciting personal reports from
 around the world.

PLUS 'The book within the book

'*The WayOut of the Closet*' with 66 pages

of advice for transnics, partners and those that want to understand
 more about the scene and enjoy the opportuni-
 ties available to transnics.



\$24.95 - £15.95 in all book shops
 \$30.95 USA £17.95 UK/EU inc p&p

The Tranny Guide

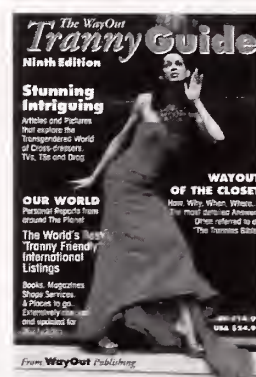
For Your TV (the video)

Cross-Dressing - How? Why? Where?
 Meet the 'Girls' - Chat in the dressing room.
 Visit 'Dressing Services' - Shops - Clubs
 \$25.95 USA £20.95inc p&p

Mail order from

WayOut Publishing, P. O. Box 70, Enfield, EN1 2AE - UK

Credit card orders accepted by post or order online at
www.wayout-publishing.com



Take A Walk On The Wildside

www.wildside.org

Call, write or email
info@wildside.org
 for a free info pack.

Live the fantasy in our TV Hotel, Boutique and
 Transformation Service in downtown Toronto.
 Home of the Canadian Crossdresser's Club

Check out our website featuring the Wildside
 on-line catalogue, chatroom and message
 board.

Wildside

161 Gerrard St. E. • Toronto, ON

Canada M5A 2E4

phone: 416-921-6112

fax: 416-964-8824

Hot Rods & Hot Babes 2001

▶
Krissy & her '91 LeBaron
KMS, 360-23 W Schick Rd.
PMB 177
Bloomington IL 60108



◀
Kellie & her Accura
Kellie Keane, PO Box
46201, KC MO 64134



▶
Lynnea & her Mazda 323
LynneaStuart@hotmail.com



▶
Olivia, president of
Chicago Gender
Society & her
slammed Merc.
coupe.
olivia@ameritech.net



◀
Darlana Stevens (LL#43)
& her motorcycle.
www.darlana.com



Sizzling New Fashions from:

Affordable Fantasies & Illusions

This Winter is an exciting time for us here at AFI. We are presenting our third season of new clothing especially made for the crossdresser community. We have added many new exciting styles and colors and hope that you will enjoy the correctly fitting garments made with wider shoulders, lowered waistlines, longer sleeves and more narrow hips. We strive for the best overall fit for our customers and feedback has been very positive with all of our pieces. If you want to see a free brochure of our best selling items, Please call **1-800-222-1427** to receive a free color brochure or if you want the full catalog, then send \$3.00 to the address listed below and we will be sure to get a catalog right out to you. To order any clothing listed below - put your chest and waist size on the order form here and we will send you the correctly sized item.



New Stretch Patent Dress !!

Style PT01

Command Attention!
Hot new stretch PVC dress. Long front zipper. Zip it up to a high neck or zip it down for more exposure. Latest Fashion trend
Fits Chest sizes:
34 - 48 only
Colors: Black
Sale Price: \$ 84.95



TOP

Style TP01
Dense tight stretch lace top. a best seller - fits great! and works great with skirts and under suits
Fits Chest sizes:
34 - 46 only
Colors: Black or White
Sale Price: \$ 34.50

SKIRT

Style PLT01
NEW - cute pleated skirt. very versatile. Can be worn as shown for a sexy look with our lace top or as part of a cheerleader or schoolgirl outfit
Color: Black, Red
26 - 42 only
Sale price: \$ 37.15

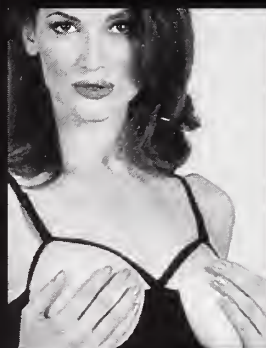


Style BLS04

High neck, long-sleeve elegant satin blouse. Now Made in a smooth new Premium Quality Satin. A stunning piece. Keyhole opening with 2 buttons on the collar at the back of neck. Now offered in 5 fantastic colors!
Colors: White, Burgundy, Black, Purple, And Gold Lame
• Less than 43" chest \$42.50
• Over 44" chest \$44.95

Style KK02

Sexy Satin/Lycra Zip skirt. Fits tight and looks great! Thick black zipper runs the length of the skirt. 17 inch length. Sizes: 26 - 42, Color: Black
Price: \$ 34.95



Style: BraOpen

Enticing, smooth satin open breast bra. If you have a little breast tissue or a lot, try our new open breast bra. Creates the feminine illusion immediately.
Sizes 36 - 44
Low Price \$34.95

100% Silicone Breastforms!



The ultimate in realistic breastwear. Our silicone forms are made of the highest quality silicone for the best feel and the nipple is specially made to be realistic and more projected plus the finish is a matte finish so they look more realistic when attached. Sizes: B, C, D, DD. make sure you specify your chest size when ordering. Price for pair \$279.95. Price with adhesive and remover \$294.95



Style: #Gaff

Our unique design helps to flatten out your front genital area for a smooth, realistic, feminine appearance. Comes with instructions. Blk, White or Nude
Sizes: 26 - 44
Low Price \$29.75

Order here or at our Website:

WWW.CROSSDRESS.NET. We will need your chest measurement without padding

Style # Color Size Price

Shipping costs:

\$35 - \$100 add \$7.00.

\$100 - \$290 add \$10.00.

Over \$291 add \$13.00

Shipping

Total

LLfl00

If paying by Mail use Postal Money Order for Fastest Delivery.

Make Checks/ Money Orders payable to BEST VALUE PRODUCTS.

Visa/MC/Disc # _____

Exp Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Best Value Products • PO Box 156 • Wyncote • PA • 19095
215-782-9025 Fax:215-782-9180 E-mail: bvp@p3.net

Hot Rods & Hot Babes 2001



▲ Melissa Franks & her Mazda Miata



▲ Stephanie B & her 86 Lincoln Town Car

Cars are supposed to be a "guy" thing. Well, there's lots of women who love cars, too. So, it stands to reason that those of us who love women so much we want to emulate them might also have a "thing" for cars. And, there's nothing quite like the sight of a pretty girl and a hot car as you can see from these beauties and their babies.

Want to check out babes and cars online? Go to:

<http://www.hotrodbettie.com/>

<http://www.varla.com/>



◀ Kellie & her Accura
Kellie Keane, PO Box
46201, KC MO 64134



▲ Krissy & her '91 LeBaron
KMS, 360-23 W Schick Rd.
PMB 177
Bloomington IL 60108

Hot Rods & Hot Babes

2001



▲ Michelle & her Mustang
Michelle Lampron, 95 Robb St.
Valleyfield, Quebec
CANADA J65 3T2



▲ Alison Gale & her Ford Ranger
430 Delaware Ave #202, Buffalo NY 14202



▲ Melissa Franks & her 1990 Mazda Miata



Victoria Wilson & her GrandAm
820 Lincoln St, Red Bank NJ 07701 ▼



▼ Daphne Thomas & her Lincoln
PO Box 5679, Dearborn MI 48128



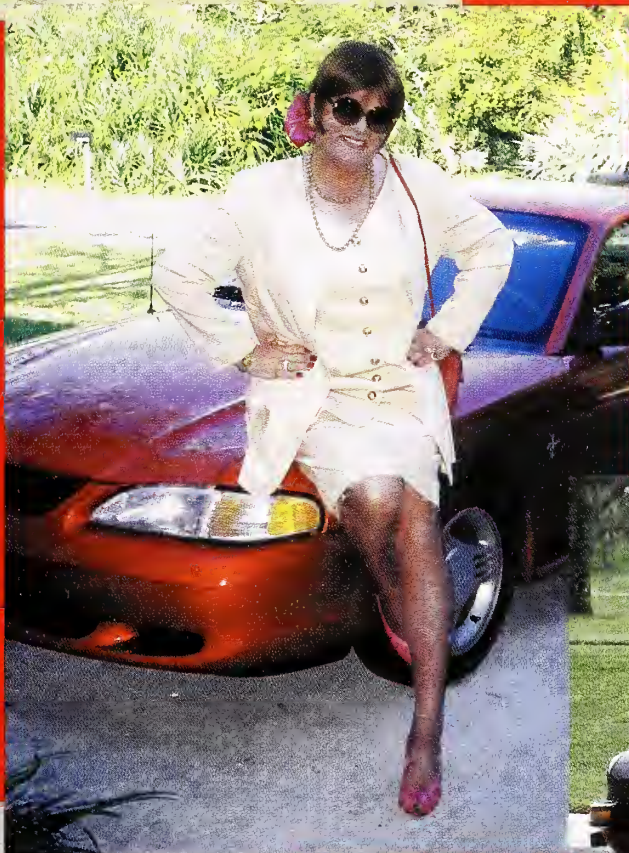
▼ Elaine & her Mercedes FWD2787



▲ Carlotta Marie &
Her 1994 Chrysler New Yorker
PO Box 222, Glenford NY
12433



▲ Tammy Cason & her Dodge Dakota
tammi@micron.net



► Monique Elliott &
her Mustang
PO Box 4345
Tequesta FL
33469



▼ J.J. and her Porsche

Joy Kamei & her GranPrix
5710 E 76th St
PMB 201
Long Beach CA 90803 ▼



▼ Stephanie Lane & her 1986 Lincoln Towncar



To Goddess & Beyond...

Transformed and transfixed! That's what you will be after visiting with Ms. Lynda at CDtips. We offer in-house transformations, personalized shopping, wardrobe selection and consultation, feminine comportment instruction, glamour makeup application, manicures, pedicures, full epilation, and more.

Ms. Lynda is the premiere makeover artist in the greater Philadelphia area and worked with JoAnn Roberts at her *Paradise In The Poconos* weekend.

Call or email now for rates and information:

CDtips@aol.com or 215-878-3383

Visit me on the web at www.CD-tips.com



Lynda of CDtips

Studio Lites

Head-To-Toe Transformation Specialists

Over 5000 Square Feet of Retail Space!

A SAFE, DISCRETE, PRIVATE and CONFIDENTIAL place to shop!

Wigs (Over 14 Companies Represented)

Breast Forms (5 Companies Represented)

Heels (Large Selection and Sizes)

Clothing (Sexy Dresses to Custom Designs)

Corsets/Gaffs

Maids Uniforms

Pettie Coats/Sissy Pants

Lingerie/Hosiery/Undergarments

Gloves/Boas

Cosmetics

Rhinestones/Jewelry

Adult Magazines/Toys/Videos

Excursions

Make-overs

Photography Studio

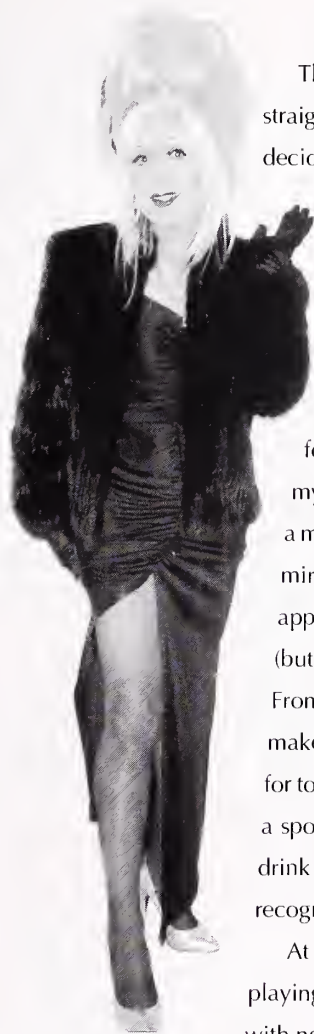
Bianca & Morganna

We offer two convenient ways of servicing your needs!

Our Retail Store – 333 N. Broadway, Denver CO 80203, (303) 733-7797, Fax (303) 733-7997

Our Web Site – <http://www.studiolites.com>, E-mail - WigGuys@aol.com

It's A Small Scary World!



This past New Year's Eve, I went to my favorite straight bar, Adrian's to toast in the new year. I decided on a totally new look for me, so I wore a slinky, long black evening dress with a long slit down the middle that showed off my legs when I walked. I added long satin black gloves and a blonde wig styled upwards in a Miss America fashion. I finished the whole ensemble with my black fox fur jacket for warmth and several squirts of my favorite perfume for good luck on attracting a male dance partner. I glanced at myself in the mirror and I had second thoughts about my appearance because I looked like that phoney (but sexy) Martian woman in the movie *Invasion From Mars*! But with no time left to do a complete makeover, I climbed into my vehicle and headed for town. I got to the club at 11:30 pm and found a spot all to myself at the bar, sat and ordered a drink from Juanita the barmaid, who at first didn't recognize me, with this new look.

At the stroke of midnight the disco stopped playing music and everyone stood and let loose with noise makers and cheering. I also stood but I remained in my place as the procession of well wishers with hugs and handshakes began to wind around the bar. Couples I didn't know would come by and the women hugged me and the men shook my hand, as we exchanged best wishes for the new year. After the hugging subsided, the disco resumed playing and couples began forming a bee-line to the dance floor. A tall older gentleman approached me and extended his hand in an invitation for me to dance with him. Caught in the whirlwind of the excitement I accepted without thinking and we joined the crowd on the dance floor. The first few songs were fast and upbeat, so we danced apart but then the DJ changed the style and began to play slow songs. My partner waited for my reaction and, again, without thinking I assumed the position for him to lead me into a slow dance. As we swayed to the rhythm of the music, he began whispering in my ear how lucky he felt that the new year had brought him the opportunity to dance with the prettiest girl there - me! Grateful, I just peeped a bashful gesture of thanks to him.

I was beginning to get excited as he held me close. The reflection in the mirrors of me as a woman, slow dancing with a man in a crowded bar was just too arousing. Then crazy thoughts ran through my head - what if he recoils in horror when he realizes I am not what I appear to be? I closed my eyes and prayed for the song to be over! Amazingly we danced several numbers more before the music changed to something we didn't

like and he walked me over to my place at the bar. He thanked me for the dance, walked away and I breathed a sigh of relief!

Later, he had the barmaid bring me a new drink and I realized he was mesmerized when he returned to ask me out to dance again. By then the drinks in me had begun to take effect and I was no longer afraid on the dance floor - I even requested some of my favorite songs from the DJ!

At closing time, my suitor joined me at the bar so we could talk briefly before saying goodnight. He said he was divorced and lived by himself. I asked where he lived and he mentioned the old neighborhood where I grew up. Good-naturedly, I told him I used to live there, and now curious, I asked what street and he mentioned one nearby my parent's house. Intrigued, I asked if he knew a certain family with kids whom I went to school with, mentioning two friends of mine by name. He answered "I'm their father"!

Good gawd! I was turning on my friends' dad! And I was almost gonna give him my phone number, too! Sensing an awkward moment, we changed the subject and talked briefly about what kind of work we do, pretending nothing had happened earlier, out on the dance floor. The barmaid broke the mood announcing, "Drink up!" to those of us still left because they were closing. I grabbed my purse and coat and stood up to leave. He said it was nice to have met me and said goodbye with a hug, but he remained behind as I made my way to the door. I think I spooked him!

The next day I went for dinner at my parent's house and they, along with my brother asked me where I went for the New Year's Eve celebration. I told them where I went and that I ran into Mr. So-and-so there. But cleverly, I left out the part where I was dancing with him!! Can you just imagine?

Foxy Roxy

Roxy & her admirer at Adrian's on New Year's Eve



LL

Mirror Mirror



▲ Jackie B, PO Box 312,
Nuevo CA 92567



▲ Wendi Darling, NY
IDNew51@aol.com

Jacqueline5353@yahoo.com
FWD#3749 ▼



Send Your Photo!



▲ Eddie Knox, PO Box 824
Marshall MO 65340

Lisa Thomas, PO Box 1480,
Pt. Pleasant Beach NJ 08742 ▼



▲ DFN, PO Box 155,
Wellington OH 44090



▲ Janet Collins, PO Box 947
Bear DE 19701



▲ Darlene (l) & Brandy (r)
DarleneF2@aol.com



▲ Helen, MD
FWD#3707

◀ Michelle Lampron, 95 Robb St,
Valleyfield, Quebec
Canada J6S 3T2



▲ Amanda, San Antonio, Texas
FWD#3641

Kellie Keane, PO Box 46201
Kansas City MO 64134 ▼



▲ R. Ware, PO Box 704
Danville FL 61834-0704



Jessica M.,
PO Box 6120-331,
NB CA 92658 ▼

The Dating Game

Back when I wrote my first column for LadyLike, I spoke about going on a date as a woman with a guy (also a crossdresser) and asked the question "where does it all end?" I found that to be a very enjoyable experience and know that I'll do it again with the right guy. Since that article appeared I've gotten quite a bit of mail concerning that same subject. A lot of the letters were from males wanting to take me out and show me an even better time, some suggesting what great sexual highs I would encounter with them. Those that were totally lewd and dripping with saliva I simply tossed, while others I answered and told the writer they weren't man enough to handle this chick.

It is interesting how many t-girls wrote and either told of going on dates, or fantasized about dating, or wondered if they dared try dating. Depending on the information provided, my answers were different in each case. While I'm hardly an old pro (old, yes, pro, no) at this, I've spoken at length with someone who is very experienced at dating - the fabulous Foxy Roxy, who dates guys whenever she feels confident they'll act gentlemanly. I went on my date in September 1999 and a year later I flipped things around and took a t-girl out on a date - none other than Ms Roxy. In all honesty, I'll never forget that date, either.

Both of those dates got me to thinking (yes, that's what you smell burning) how neat it would be if CDs could take turns dating each other. It is certainly a truly feminine experience to be all dressed up and on the arm of a handsome guy out in public. Even if you aren't 100 percent passable, you are with a guy so you must be a woman. It just legitimizes the whole thing. I'm pretty tall for your average woman at 5'9", but my male date was taller and we looked good together. Finding a guy will be the biggest hurdle, but it's possible if you play your cards right.

In my case, I had been corresponding with so many sisters the past few years and many of us seemed to click.



Ms Brenda and Ms Roxy show off their favorite magazine!

One particular gal was so nice, above average intelligence and quite content to dress only at home because she wasn't all that passable. Though she lives many hundreds of miles away, she has family quite close to me and often visits them. We decided to meet the next time she was in the area. Then the idea of going on a date together popped into my little feminine head and we both thought it was a great idea. I can truly say we both had a great time that weekend.

It seems natural to think that since so many of us communicate with each other, it would be fun to work out a plan to take each other out on a date, switching genders each time you go out. With all the t-girls out there, you should be able to find someone to hook up with. I don't mean to imply at this point that this will work for all of us. If you're 6'9" tall and 300 lbs, this isn't going to work. In this situation, you would always be the guy and escort your lady to dinner and a show or whatever activities you decided on beforehand. I certainly enjoyed my date as the guy, but then I hand my arm around Ms Roxy. Believe me, after dating her, I'd be the guy any time she wanted!

Of course, this begs the question; how trustworthy are

these people? I guess you are going to have to go by your instincts in this matter. With Roxy, we had been corresponding and calling each other on the phone for a year and pretty much knew where we stood with regard to how things would go, including our sexual preferences. I know there were a couple of moments on the date, and a few times the following two days, that we could have done something we might have regretted later on, but we controlled our emotions and handled ourselves maturely... and wisely.

I don't think it best to try dating straight guys till you have more experience. Roxy started with other CDs at first, but soon realized that it wasn't what she was looking for on dates. I know many of you are so passable that no one would ever guess you're not the real thing, but guys do expect some kind of intimacy on a date, right? That's what has been populating the world since that first bite of the apple, so let's not kid ourselves. I just feel it would be so much fun to hook up with other crossdressers who know the score, and you could treat each other to that special feeling by being a girl on a date with a guy. Or being the guy to take a special gal on a date or just for a drive in the country.

This, naturally, leads to how far you go on dates. No, not how far away the restaurant is, but how much intimacy do you want to involve yourself in. It will be a magical moment for both of you at some point, and the human sex drive being what it is, a simple hug could turn into a kiss or petting.. or? Setting the rules beforehand is a start, but Mother Nature put a lot of emphasis on our sexuality and you could find yourself bending a rule or two. My answer to the intimacy question would be to judge things for yourself using common sense. At the very least be prepared for safer sex, bring a condom.

How far you go is up to you and your date. Maybe you are the one who wants to take things further and s/he doesn't. Let's face it, you might not be all that turned on by the guy you're with, or he you. And as they say, you play it by ear and go with what you're comfortable with. Ms Roxy rates the intimacy level by how turned on she is with her date. I should point out that she is single with no attachments to a significant other at this time. If you have a wife or SO, it's my opinion you'd be cheating on them and that's a no-no in my book.

If you do get intimate, are you gay or bi-sexual? I hardly think so. It's kind of hard to explain, but if you dress like a woman and act like a woman, then you most certainly should be able to love like a woman. If you start chasing guys while dressed as a guy, that's something else! Since I spent that weekend with Roxy, I am fascinated at the way she becomes 100 percent woman while dressed, but is 100 percent guy dressed as a guy. Her input on this subject has been most helpful for me, but to answer my own question of where it all ends, there is no answer. Not for us.

It's my guess there will either be electricity between the two of you or there won't. I felt it on both of my dates - more so in the company of Roxy. I dealt with it the only way I knew how - my wife and marriage was far and away more important than a few moments of pleasure. Yes, guys do expect something from a date with a girl, maybe more so from t-girls, and a handshake is not it. At least one thing is certain, we t-girls can't get pregnant!

So far.

LL



Mirror



Jonnie Ballard, PO Box 20195
Billings MT 59104 ▼

▲ Leslie, Albany, NY
LeslieJOHara@aol.com



Tina Mink, NE
FWD#3242 ▼



▲ Laura Cynthia Hunt, PO Box 2211
Hollywood CA 90078



Regina Lynn, 512
Anastasia Blvd., St.
Augustine FL 32080 ▼



▲ Christine Brown
Vancouver BC



▲ Danielle Carmen, IN



▲ Rachel Storm, PO Box 2295
Pahoa HI 96778



▲ Nicole Shelby, Minn.
FWD#4011



▲ Allison Gale, #202, 430
Delaware Ave, Buffalo NY 14202



▲ Janet, Milw., Wis.



▲ Dianne Kendall, PO Box
725135, Atlanta GA 31139



Christine H.,
CA @
SCC'99 ▼



▲ Alison Van Horn, PMB 350,
15 Paradise Plaza, Sarasota FL
34239-6905



▲ Jessica M., PO Box 6120-331,
Newport Beach CA 92658

Send Your Photo!

tgc cosmetics.com
*glamorous looks for
special women*

Create the fabulous styles
of classic beauties
with a look that sizzles.

Enjoy the style and elegance of
living in our world of beauty.

Color coordinated
cosmetics kits for
specific skin & hair types

Jewelry & Makeup accessories

Rx "effective" Skin Care products
available online-
topical anesthetic, growth hormone,
smooth out uneven skin tone

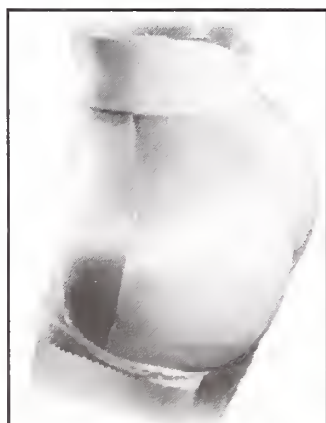
Makeup & styling tips

Visit us at
www.tgc cosmetics.com

SECURE SSL SITE - ALL DATA CONFIDENTIAL - PLAIN PACKAGING



Diva



Veronica 1

Instant Cleavage!

Yes, create cleavage anytime you want with our incredible *Diva* cleavage creator. No tape! No glue! No blisters! This garment is worn *under* your regular bra with breast forms and temporarily transforms your own loose breast tissue into seemingly real feminine breasts. Call or write for current pricing.

Need Hips?

Our *Veronicas* are designed by computer to create a more feminine you. Each garment is custom-made to your measurements to give you perfect feminine hips. The *Veronica 1* is for swimsuits and very short skirts. The *Veronica 2* is for longer skirts, leggings or trousers.

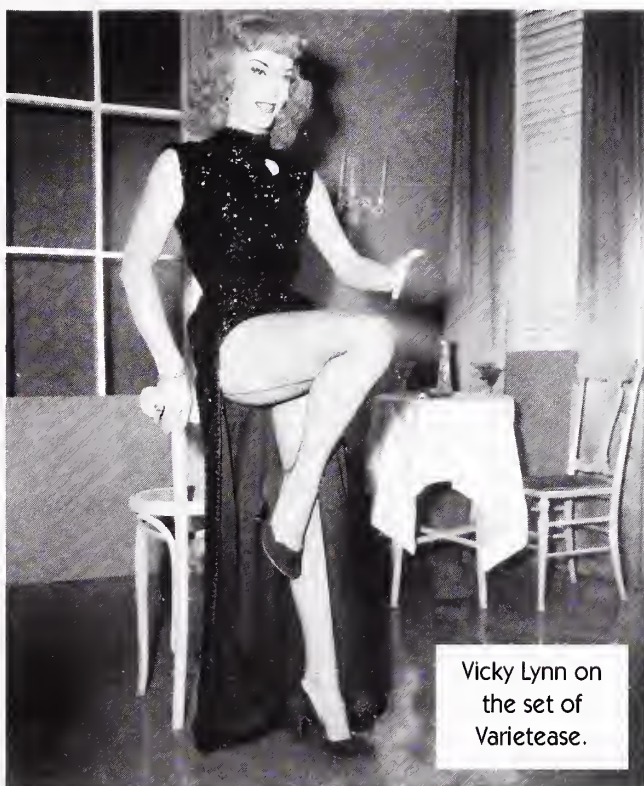
Classic Curves,

PO Box 115, Wilmington, CA 90748
562-595-9148 • Outside Calif. 888-898-8787
classicurv@aol.com • www.clerv.com

Write, call, email us for a size chart.

*Classic
Curves*
International®



Take It Off? Take It Off?
The Films of Vicky Lynn

Vicky Lynn on
the set of
Varitease.

There's usually something unattainable about FlashBack. A good example is our recent series about the French clubs, le Carrousel and Madame Arthur's. You can read the article, but you can't visit the clubs. Maybe this is inherent in any historical writing. You can read about Richard Nixon, but you can't meet him. And when FlashBack's fare is a senior female impersonator, like Minette, Pudgy Roberts or Grey Ryder, you can't see them. Usually they haven't performed in decades.

Vicky Lynn, the star of this installment of FlashBack, is both unavailable and available. Her heyday was the distant decade between the mid-1950's and mid-1960's. After that she seems to have vanished. Even her name is obscure. Every time it appears in print, it's spelled differently. In *Varitease* she's billed as Vicky Lynn. In *Teaserama* she's Vicki Lynn. A program from New York's **82 Club** calls her Vickie Lynn. So Vicky goes from a final "y" to an "i" to "ie." However it's spelled, you can see her perform thanks to two short films that are available on video. (*That makes this month's FlashBack an homage to Laurie Ann's video review column, TVideo Reviews, which formerly graced these pages. Hi, Laurie. My column misses your column.*)

In 1954, Vicky performed in the one-hour film *Varitease*. The film was a low budget combination of burlesque and an Ed Sullivan-style variety show from the early days of television. *Motion Picture Exhibitor*, a trade publication for theater owners and bookers, described the film as being "suited for the exploitation spots." They explain the story by saying, "This has no story. Song stylists Cass Franklin and Monica Lane hold up the vocal end of the activities while Bobby Shields helps with the laughs. Betty Page, as a harem girl, does an oriental dance and Baro and Rogers do a humorous take-off on slick dancing. Christine Nelson offers some poker face comedy while Twinnie Wallen does a lively Cancan. Chris La Chris exhibits her interpretive dancing, but, not to be outdone, Vicki Lynn, a boy, assumes a feminine dance costume and goes through a similar routine; and, of course, there is Lili St. Cyr."

This review doesn't mention a flamenco duo billed as "Pepe and Roccio - Spanish dancers supreme." If neither Pepe nor Roccio seem like particularly feminine names to you, that's because one of the dancers is obviously a female impersonator. The male dancer may be Pepe Albeniz, who appeared in some Mme. Arthur & le Carrousel programs. But any references to Roccio have eluded me. It's baffling why there was such a fuss made over one female impersonator, Vicky Lynn, but nothing even mentioned about the other, Roccio. Stranger still, the duo isn't mentioned in the credits at all. They're listed in the credits to *Teaserama*, another film by the same producer, but they don't appear in *Teaserama*. Your guess is as good as mine.

The "*Exhibitor*" does have some good things to say about *Varitease*. "Technically, this far surpasses anything of similar classification. The Eastman Color is clear and bright, and editing is competent. With St. Cyr, a top burlesque name, going through a goodly amount of dressing and undressing, this should be okeh (sic) for the houses that specializes in this type of entertainment. What is more, the comedy and dance routines are often fairly enjoyable. For sensational values, there is a female impersonation which might draw attention."

The producers concurred with this opinion. They



82 CLUB

82 East 4th St., New York City
GR 7-1046



The chorus of the "82 Club" circa 1965. We believe the performers are (l. to r.): Chris Ames, Kim August, Vicky Lynn, Vinnie Summers, Sandy Rogers and Hans Crystal.

suggest three "ad lines" for promoting the film. The first two are rather ordinary. Neither "The Most Sensational Musical Review Ever Made" or "Beautiful Girls in Beautiful Eastman Color" will go down in advertising history. And the final line sounds like something you'd hear barked on a carnival midway, "'See The Incredible Dance...By A Female Impersonator.'" Looky, looky, looky! The "dance by a female impersonator" is mentioned in the film's trailer, too, though Vicky isn't shown.

We first see Vicky in boy clothes, sitting with Chris La Chris at a table in a nightclub set. Chris gets up and does a mildly sensual "interpretive" dance, not a strip. Vicky, who looks very young, watches, but usually with half interest. Chris is wearing a black, sequined, tight fitting dress with a thigh-high slit up the right leg. When she's finished she sits as the table and asks her companion:

Chris La Chris: How did you like my dance?

Vicky Lynn: I liked it very much. You know, if I was a woman I could do a dance that would hold any man.

CLC: I don't believe you. Show me.

VL: You got a gown I can borrow?

CLC: Go into my dressing room, take any you want.

VL: OK.

Vicky delivers this last line very flat without any hint of emotion. Moments later she returns in a dress very similar

to Chris', but hers is slit to the hip. During her dance Vicky smiles more than Chris and seems to be genuinely enjoying herself. The dance becomes a mild strip when Vicky removes her skirt and dances in, essentially, a black sequined leotard. She dances wonderfully with much greater sensuality than any of the dancers, except the star, Lili St. Cyr. Vicky's bio in an 82 Club program claims, "Vickie Lynn has taught (and been imitated by) more girl striptease artists than we have space to name." Seeing Vicky dance in this film confirms that statement.

When she's finished, Vicky sits down at the table to canned applause. Mixed with the clapping is scattered men's laughter, which, though it doesn't sound menacing or taunting, still seems less than friendly. Vicky removes her wig & earrings, then lights a cigar. This is a strange touch. Is this the director's way of underscoring Vicky's masculinity? Strange how putting a phallic symbol in your mouth confirms masculinity? Freud may have said, "Sometimes a cigar is just a cigar," but it's more than that here. Vicky, possibly realizing the irony of this piece of theatrical business, holds the cigar suggestively in her mouth for just the barest moment once it's lit.

Both films featuring Vicky Lynn, **Varitease** and **Teaserama**, were produced and directed by Irving Klaw. In 1947, Klaw had a little bookshop selling photos and porno on East 14th St. in Manhattan. There's an apocryphal story that one day a wealthy man came into the shop and asked

Klaw for some female bondage photos. Not having any, Klaw told the mysterious customer to come back the next day. That night Irving shot the photos to order in the back of his shop. When the US Post Office shut Klaw down in 1963, his warehouse was filled with thousands of photos, negatives and copies of his now famous, collectable little Nutrix books, 64 page fiction miniatures of bondage, girl wrestling, spanking and at least 300 different TV fantasy titles. Lee Brewster once told me that he bought all the TV books when Nutrix was shut down. Klaw published the first drawings of influential cartoon artists Eric Stanton, Will Eisner and a young African-American named Gene Bilbrew. Bilbrew signed his work "Enge," Gene backwards. Later Enge became one of the best-known artists of the female domination magazine "Bizarre." Even today publishers of fem/dom and forced feminization fiction are still pirating his drawings.

Klaw produced his second film, *Teaserama*, in 1955. The star was the generously endowed Tempest Storm, billed as "Burlesque's Sexiest Star." But the reason these films are available in video isn't the stars, Tempest Storm and Lili St. Cyr. Both have been eclipsed by Betty Page, a stunning brunette whose winning smile and twinkling eye have made her the 1950's pin-up queen with the cult following. Though Lili and Tempest starred in the film, Betty gets top billing in the videos.

Teaserama is less ambitious than *Varietease*. The production values aren't as high and the variety acts are gone. This film is a series of strips with a few bits by baggy pants Burlesque comics thrown in. It's as though Klaw hired the cast of a Times Square Burlesque house for the day. In between strips, Betty saunters on camera and places a sign with the next performer's name on an easel. There's the feeling that everything was done in one take. During some strips, Klaw must have been shouting instructions from off-camera, for some of the dancers lips move, as though they were talking. The biggest surprise in the film is the appearance of comic Joe E. Ross. He came to national attention as Mess Sargeant Suicki on the "Phil Silvers Show: You'll Never Get Rich," better known as the Bilko Show. But the height of his fame was "Car 54, Where Are You?" where he starred as Officer Gunther Toody. Later he did character voices for Hanna-Barbera cartoons. He died at age 67 on August 13, 1982.

Vicky appears twice in this film. The first time we see her is in a comedy bit, which might be called, "My Husband is So Cheap That..." It starts with Vicky and another girl talking. Vicky is fed up with hubby and says that, "If he

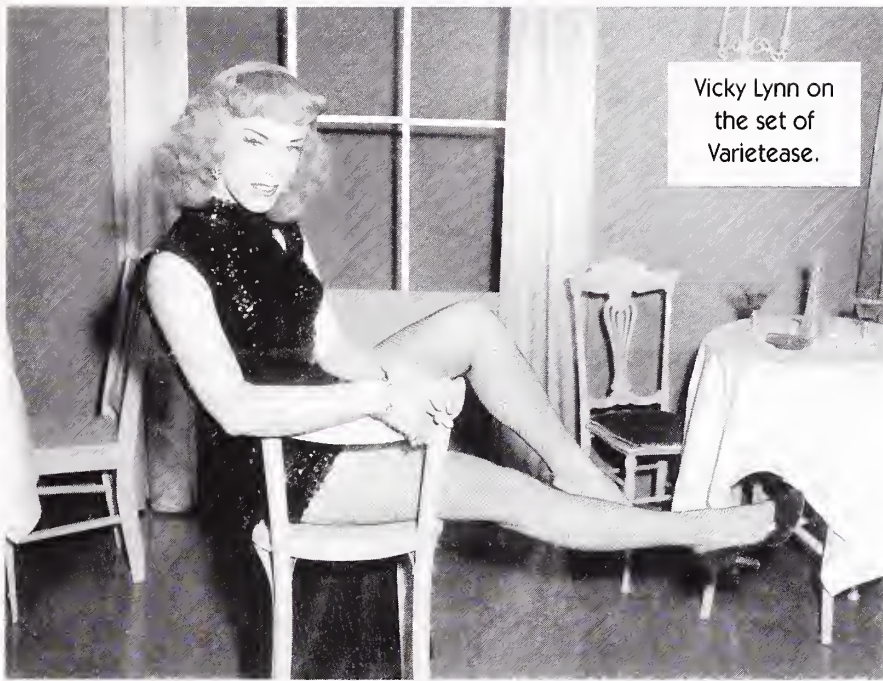
doesn't give me any money today, I think I'm going to walk right past the pool room without a stitch of clothing on." Enter her spouse, comic Dave Starr. This threat completely unnerves him and he immediately starts counting out the money, one bill at a time, "\$1,000, \$2,000. What's this \$5.00 doing in here?" He throws the five away. Vicky grabs the entire wad and, like the archetypal floozy, puts it in her bodice. Exit stage right. The bit continues, but we needn't. The importance of the comedy bit is that in it Vicky is a real woman. She has a husband and there's not the slightest hint that she's to be taken differently than the way she's dressed.

Later she does a striptease, the first real strip in the film. Her music is more sophisticated than the previous performers'. Think of Duke Ellington's "Mood Indigo," which wasn't written for the Burlesque houses, but became a strippers standard anyway. Vicky is wearing a classic outfit, a tight red velvet dress and long white gloves. Though she's as good as any of the other strippers in this film, this dance isn't as exciting as the one in *Varietease*. One distraction is that she keeps walking off camera to pass clothes through the curtain to unseen stagehand. This practice may work fine on-stage, but here the camera keeps cutting her off, breaking the continuity. Once her dress is off, you can see

continued next page



Vicky Lynn on the set of *Varietease*.



What happened to her? Hard to say. She doesn't turn up in any later publications or programs. When she did appear in print she's not really featured. In "Female Mimics" she's not even identified, which is true for most of the performers. Vicky is best known through **Varietease** and **Teaserama**. Though she's on camera less than 20 minutes, it's enough to tell that Vicky was a polished professional and accomplished artiste. If you want to see first class, old school female impersonation in a context completely different than anything you can see today, watch Vicky Lynn in **Varietease** and **Teaserama**.

LL

FlashBack would like to thank Erick Gilbert for his contributions to this article. The **Varietease** and **Teaserama** videos were produced by Something Weird Video & David F. Freedman / Dept. F.U.N. / P.O. Box 33864 / Seattle, WA 98133.

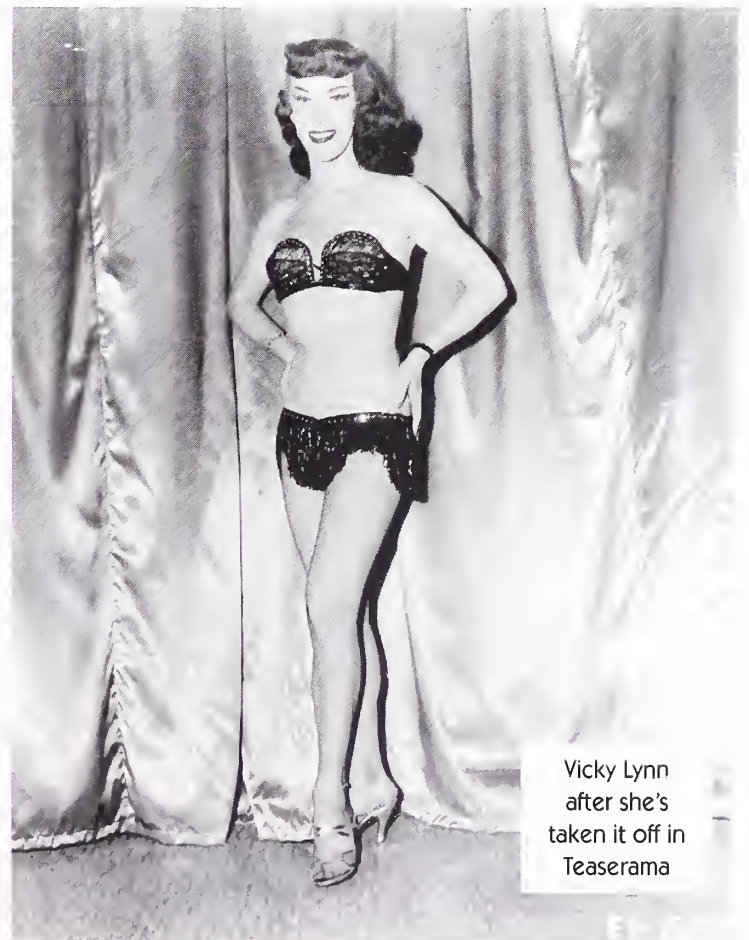
Ms BOB is seeking Female Mimics #6 (Aug, 1965), Vol. 6, #3 (Fall, 1975) and New Female Mimics (Winter, 1970-71), Lady Like #7 (1990), #11 (1991), #14 (1992) and #19 (1993) and En Femme #11 (1989). Visit Ms BOB'S ON-LINE BOOK SHOPPE & EPHEMERA EMPORIUM on the Transgender Forum Shopping Mall (www.3dcom.com/msbob/) for used and hard to find items. Ms Bob can be contacted c/o Lady Like or at msbob@tgforum.com.

CAROL KLEINMAIER is a founding member of Transgendered Nation. For almost two decades she has been an activist for both gender and AIDS issues.

that Vicky has a womanly high waist. There's a long section of her in lingerie and the performance ends with a tight shot from the waist up. There's applause as Vicky removes her bra with her back to the audience. Then she turns, revealing that she's flat chested. Again there's scattered laughter among applause, though here it sounds more genuine, without a hint of menace. As a final gesture of propriety, Vicky removes her wig and exits stage right.

The next mention I found about Vicky comes ten years later in a program for the 82 Club in the East Village. The program seems to describe the dance discussed above, "He is unsurpassed in his impression of an undulating stripteuse and never fails to deliver a surprise punch at the conclusion of his act when he doffs his wig and 'other' female trappings to reveal himself as 'Mr'." The bio goes on to hint at **Varietease** and **Teaserama**, "He has appeared in American films along with top-name ladies of burlesque and was featured for a season in Tokyo's famous 'Queen Bee' club." Appearing at the 82 Club with Vicky were some of the impersonators brought to national attention by the original "Female Mimics" magazine: Kitt Russell, Teri Noel, Hans Crystal, Ty Bennett, Kirk Wilde, Christian DuBois, Kim August and Jackie Maye. There's no date in the program, but, there is a pictorial about the 82 Club in "Female Mimics" #6 from 1965. The cast and costumes are the same, so I'll venture a guess that Vicky was at the 82 Club in the mid-1960's.

About five years later "New Female Mimics," #1, 1970-1971 did a feature on the 82 Club. Ty Bennett was still with the show, as was Hans Crystal. But where is Vicky Lynn?



Sheer Adventure

A while ago, I chronicled the story of my first half dozen femme strolls. Frankly, the fast-paced account hardly did justice to the psychological experience of “going public” Permit me, then, to backtrack to stroll number two. (Please please?) Some details, I’m certain, will ring with familiarity.

So. Okay. March 29, 1999. There I stood, pondering, like, feasible possibilities for “Brigitte’s” walking wardrobe when I got this totally gnarly ideal Why not dress up in one of my mother’s cute, “timeless” outfits?

You know how most mothers are, like, so unhip? And how their clothes are so “older generation”? Well, not my Mom! Nuh-uhl She had, like, a totally tubular fashion sense. Fer shur!!! True, we were miles apart in body size and shape. (She was a full ten inches shorter, and her weight had fluctuated significantly throughout her married life.) Yet I knew most of her stuff fit me perfectly! (Giggle.) Hey, I’d already worn just about every item she’d owned.

I could hardly contain my anxiety as I collected and laid out a modest array of 1950s (1960s? whatever) apparel! And I, like, actually trembled with anticipation when I began to try some things on! Gosh, what a rush it was to fasten her longline bra, squeeze into her open girdle, and hook up her stockings! Wow! Sheer delight! (Alas, as hers proved inappropriate, I supplied my own panties and slip. Bummer.) Next came that “contemporary” exterior...

Footnote. Pen pals constantly rave about my “gorgeous” gams. Mine??? Like, no way! Sure, hose make them appear passable; but, between you and me? I’ve seen shapelier stems on a 52year-old guy! Gag me with a spoon!!!

Whatever... Where was I? Oh. Right. What a weird, wonderful feeling it was to ease into her blouse, step into her skirt, and flip on her vest! Heck, in the spirit of the moment, I even borrowed one of her pendants! Her gloves! Her raincoat! (My shoes and purse.) Had I hit the Jackpot or what? (Titter.) Like, what a photo op!

Wardrobe selected, garters connected, armpits inspected, make-up perfected, “Brigitte” stood on the brink! A few last minute cosmetic and girlie-gear adjustments... (Come on, bonehead! Are you eve going to 1eave?) Lights out... Unlocking the door, I scanned the third floor in both directions... (Gulp.) For better or worse, it was a greenlight situation.....

So, how can I explain it? I felt, like, calm yet tense. Both cautious and daring. Confident but apprehensive... I hurried along the corridor, down the stairway, through the lobby, and out the entrance... The night awaited me!

(Hopefully, nothing else lurked in ambush.)

Once again in the great outdoors! (Frankly, I’d rather forget the first such adventure. No offense, “Monique”.) Once again utterly layered in femininity! This was, like, totally surreal A blast and a half! (Giggle.) For all intents and purposes, I’d once again become a young woman! (Well, kinda; but you know what I mean.) With this in mind, although counting on no chance meetings, I remained prepared for any eventuality...

Not to worry. No police cruisers. No pedestrians. No rowdy motorists. Just a couple of passing vehicles. (Head down, girl. Don’t cough, sneeze, burp, clear your throat, spit, far... er... don’t do anything to draw attention to yourself. Scope out the surroundings. And, by all means, maintain that determined gait.

Finalizing a few- minor “technical” modifications hand-bag slung diagonally across chest, keys firmly gripped, arm

▼ Rox as Brigitte in Mom’s lingerie.



swinging purposefully, hips gently swaying — I hit my stride. Like, it all suddenly came together — and seemed so natural. Yay!

Excitement! Elation! Exhilaration! Ecstasy! After nearly a decade of higher priorities, excuses, postponements. and false starts, I had come to my senses at last. Or, more accurately, my senses had come to me.

I listened in wonderment at the click-click of high heels... my high heels!

I stared admiringly at the shadow of gently-flowing, shoulder-length tresses... my shoulder-length tresses!

I sniffed the surrounding air, savouring a fragrance that followed me everywhere... my fragrance!

I tingled as the cool breeze caressed a pair of nylon clad legs... my nylon-clad legs. (Sheer heaven!)

And taste? Well, perhaps it was initially nothing other than unadulterated adrenalin. Still, soon enough, that became displaced by the familiar flavour of creamy lipstick... my creamy lipstick.

"Brigitte" had been thrust headlong into a fantasy world but this "dream" was reality!

Okay. The pre-dawn morning was, like, totally Disneyland! Star-studded sky. Cool temperature. Dry pavement. Simply perfect for a stroll. I could well imagine how Mom had felt decades before, wearing much of the same apparel that now adorned my body. Nevertheless (levertheNess?), I wonder whether she'd truly appreciated the incredible implications of femininity. Or, having been born female, had she taken it all for granted?

Unfortunately, sunrise came all too early, forcing this babe back indoors. (Aw, quadruple-bummer! Move over, Cinderella.) On the other hand, it was the second overtime period for hauling butt to the ladies. (I hadda pee!!!) And can you picture what that means to someone wearing five layers - including a girdle! (Uh-oh!) Like gangway!

.....

That was then. This is now - nearly nine months later. Christmas stands at the doorstep, and my femme personae — any of 32 alter egos, actually — haven't made an appearance in five weeks. (You want proof? I'm not employing Valley Girl vernacular, am I?) For the record, 'tis the season to undergo a series of routine medical/dental check-ups. Hence, my body has, of necessity readopted its natural, masculine, furry (well, make that moderately hairy) state. In a word, YUCK!

Nonetheless, I am fortunate enough to encounter numerous unaccompanied women during the course of any given day — so Rox and Company can, as a temporary

▼ Rox as Brigitte in appropriate public attire



measure, live vicariously through them. In isolated cases, it's as if I'm witnessing myself from a distance! Wow! Talk about deja vu! Whether I'm on foot or bicycling, reactions to my presence vary little. Often, an individual will lower her gaze just as we meet.

Sometimes, she'll cross the street. On occasion, I may get a quick glance as she maintains a brisk pace.

Be that as it may, some females have been known to go a tad overboard! For example, one habitually takes a wide, wide detour around me, out into the middle of the street! (Like that would make any difference to a male with sinister intentions.) Another actually cut across an unlighted Park to avoid me! (Brilliant strategy.) But the top prizewinner remains the young gal who fled in terror as I approached! ("Hey, lady! Don't you recognize a speed-walker when you see one?") To quote my more curvaceous counterpart, "Whatever!"

Nowadays, I readily identify with the opposite sex (except, maybe, the chick who completely lost her composure) because I realize precisely how women feel in certain situations. After all, I've "been there" myself, reacting pretty much in the same way. In retrospect, I wouldn't have wanted it otherwise! (Sheer stimulation!)

Thanks, Mom!

Roxanne Van Ness

LL

North American Support Groups

National US Membership Organizations

International Foundation for Gender Education, PO Box 540229, Waltham, MA 02454. Publishes Transgender Tapestry (\$40/year subscription). Reprints and books on TV/TS subjects, other info. Hosts annual conference in different locations around the country. Phone: 617-899-2212. <ifge@ifge.org> <www.ifge.org>

Renaissance Transgender Association, Inc., 987 Old Eagle School Rd., Suite 719, Wayne, Pa. 19087. 610-975-9119 24 hr. answering machine, but phones are answered personally on Monday and Thursday evenings. Membership fee of \$40 includes the monthly publication "Transgender Community News." Also publishes Background Papers and Community Outreach Bulletins on transgender issues for personal and professional use. Speakers available for classroom, corporate, or media discussions of transgender issues. Renaissance currently has four chapters and seven affiliates. Affiliates are noted with "(I)" in the list below. Renaissance is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization. <angela@ren.org> <www.ren.org>

Society for the Second Self (SSS), Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275. Focused on families and relationships. Tri-Ess publishes the Femme Mirror quarterly and hosts an annual convention. Tri-Ess chapters are marked with "#" in the list below. Tri-Ess is a non-profit membership organization. <jeftris@aol.com>

AK
Alaska T People, c/o Bobbie Wendy Tucey, PO Box 670349, Chugiak, AK, 99567

AL
Madison County Gender Center, c/o Metropolitan Community Church, 3015 Sparkman Drive NW, Huntsville, AL, 35810

AZ
A Rose, PO Box 8108, Glendale, AZ, 85312-8108
Alpha-Zeta (Tri-Ess), PO Box 1738, Tempe, AZ, 85280-1738
Evolere Transgendered Foundation, 1830 E. Broadway Blvd. #124-269, Tucson, AZ, 85719
Tau Upsilon, 8802 E. Broadway Blvd. #145, Tucson, AZ, 85710

CA
3rd Sect, c/o Sacto. Gender Assoc., PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA, 95821-1456
Access Point, PO Box 7180, Los Osos, CA, 93402
Alpha Chapter, 409 N. Pacific Coast Hwy. #320, Redondo Beach, CA, 90277
American Transsexual Education Center, 1626 n. Wilcox Ave. #584, Hollywood, CA, 90028
Androgyny, PO Box 480740, (Santa Monica) Los Angeles, CA, 90048
Bom Free, PO Box 52829, Riverside, CA, 92517
CD Social Group, PO Box 224, Montrose, CA, 91021
Center for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Community, 3909 Centre Street, San Diego, CA, 92103

CHIC, PO Box 8487, Long Beach, CA, 90808
Diablo Valley Girls, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA, 94527-2885

Emergence-Support for Christian TS, 208 W. Manning, Reedley, CA, 93654

FPSG, #634 PO Box 410-990, San Francisco, CA, 94141-0990

Gender Awareness League, c/o Grace Bredow, PO Box 46062, Los Angeles, CA, 90046

Gender Expressions, PO Box 816, Lakewood, CA, 90714-0816

L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center/ The Village, 1125 N. McCadden Pl., Los Angeles, CA, 90038

Ladies Knight Out, PO Box 19608-179, Irvine, CA, 92713

Neutral Corner, PO Box 19008, San Diego, CA, 92159

Omega Chi, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA, 92686

Powder Puffs of California, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda, CA, 92886

PSGV Transgendered Support, 401 South Main St., Suite 104, Pomona, CA, 91765

Rainbow Gender Association, PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA, 95170-0730

Sacramento Gender Assoc., PO Box 215456, Sacramento, CA, 95821-1456

San Francisco Gender Information (SFGI), PO Box 423602, San Francisco, CA, 94142-3602

Sigma Sigma Beta, Tri-Ess, PO Box 19933, So. Lake Tahoe, CA, 96151

Silicon Valley Gender Association, 175 Stockton, San Jose, CA,

Society for Initiatives & Services in TG Issues, PO Box 30844, Oakland, CA, 94604-0844

Society for Second Self (Tri-Ess), PO Box 194, Tulare, CA, 93275

TGSF, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA, 94142-6486

Thursday Irregulars, c/o Joan Sheldon, PO Box 6541, San Jose, CA, 95150-6541

Trans-Action, 973 Market St. Suite 500, San Francisco, CA, 94103

Transsexual Support Group, The Center Long Beach, 2017 East 4th St., Long Beach, CA, 90814

Tri Chi Tri-Ess, PO Box 194, Tulare, CA, 93275

U.S. G.I.R.L.S. Club, P.O. Box 3182, Cerritos, CA, 90703-3182

Ventura Transgender Outreach, c/o GLCC, 3503 Arundell Circle, Suite 3-A, Ventura, CA, 93003

Nadia Cabezas c/o Jeff Faircloth, 191 Golden Ave, San Francisco, CA, 94102

CO
Delta, Tri-Ess, PO Box 16208, Denver, CO, 80216-6208

Gender Identity Center of Colorado, Inc., 1455 Ammons St., Suite 100, Lakewood, CO, 80215-4993

Phoneix Project, 1740 South Buckley Road, #6-178, Aurora, CO, 80017

Pueblo TV/TS Support Group, 1144 Clarion, Pueblo, CO, 81004-2808

Teenage Kids of TSs, c/o Laurie Ciccotello, 1740 S. Buckley Road #6-178, Aurora, CO, 80017

CT
Connecticut Outreach Society, PO Box 163, Farmington, CT, 6034

connecticuTView, PO Box 2281, Devon, CT, 6460

GBSING, c/o PO Box 162, Haddam, CT, 6438

Twenty (XX) Club Inc., PO Box 387, Hartford, CT, 06141-0387

D.C.
Washington-Baltimore Alliance, PO Box 50724, Washington, D.C., 20091-0724

DE
Renaissance, Delaware Chapter, PO Box 5656, Wilmington, DE, 19808

FL
Animas, PO Box 420309, Miami, FL, 33242
Gamma Chi Beta, PO Box 510045, Punta Gorda, FL, 33951-0045

Gender Society of the Palm Beaches, c/o Compass, 1700 N. Dixie Highway, W. Palm Beach, FL, 33407

Lauderdale Area TG Support, c/o Diane Arnold 3990 NW 42nd Ave, Lauderdale Lakes, FL, 33319

Mu Beta Gamma Tri-Ess, PO Box 4126, Hialeah, FL, 33014

North Florida Sisters (NFS), PO Box 5765, Jacksonville, FL, 32245-5765

Phi Epsilon Mu, Tri-Ess, PO Box 3261, Winter Park, FL, 32790-3261

Starburst, PO Box 6822, Clearwater, FL, 33756-6822

Tau Lambda, Tri-Ess, PO Box 3426, Tallahassee, FL, 32315-3426

Trans Alliance of Gainesville, PO Box 143102, Gainesville, FL, 32614-3102

GA
AGE, PO Box 98330, Atlanta, GA, 30359
Montgomery Institute, PO Box 33311, Decatur, GA, 30033

Sigma Epsilon, Tri-Ess, PO Box 272, Rosewell, GA, 30077-0272

HI
Hawaii Transgender Outreach, PO Box 4530, Honolulu, HI, 96812

IA
Central Illinois Gender Assoc., PO Box 1925, Clinton, IA, 52733-1925

Iowa Artistry, PO Box 75, Cedar Rapids, IA, 52406

QCAD Group, PO Box 1534, Davenport, IA, 52809

ID
Tri-States Transgender Group, PO Box 6691, Boise, ID, 83707

IL
Central Illinois Gender Assoc. (CIGA), P.O. Box 3082, Champaign, IL, 60826-3082
Chi, Tri-Ess, PO Box 40, Wood Dale, IL, 60191-0040

Chicago Gender Society, PO Box 578005, Chicago, IL, 60657

Sunday Society, PO Box 478850, Chicago, IL, 60647

Transgender Outreach Project, PO Box 441, Urbana, IL, 61801

IN
IXE, PO Box 20710, Indianapolis, IN, 46250
Transgender Outreach of N. Indiana, Ltd., PO Box 2372, Portage, IN, 46368

KS
KCCAF (Kansas City Crossdressers & Friends), PO Box 4092, Overland Park, KS, 66204
Wichita Transgender Alliance, PO Box 3002, Wichita, KS, 67201-3002

KY
BGB (a.k.a. BlueGrass Belles), PO Box 20173, Louisville, Ky, 40250

LA
Gulf Gender Alliance, PO Box 56836, New Orleans, LA, 70156-6836

MA
COMPASS, PO Box 229, Waltham, MA, 02454-0229

Innvestments, PO Box 2194, Orleans, MA, 02653-3160

Sunshine Club, PO Box 564, Hadley, MA, 01035-0564

TG Support Group, 36 Alpine Rd, Wayland, MA, 1778

Tiffany Club of New England, Inc., PO Box 71, Waltham, MA, 02454-0071

MD
Chi Epsilon Sigma, PO Box 505, Brooklandville, MD, 21022-0505
The Bridge Club, c/o Michelle Gerald, PO Box 11737, Baltimore, MD, 21206-0337

Tran*quility Gender Information Society, Inc., c/o GLCCB, 241 W. Chase Street, Baltimore, MD, 21201

Trans Info Project (FtM), PO Box 1145, Greenbelt, MD, 20770

Transgender Support Group of Baltimore, c/o Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Baltimore, 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore, MD, 21201

Washington-Baltimore Alliance, PO Box 1994, Silver Spring, MD, 20915

ME
Maine Gender Resource & Support, c/o Jean Churchill, PO Box 1894, Bangor, ME, 04402-1894

Transsupport, PO Box 17622, Portland, ME, 4101

MI
After Six, PO Box 126, Comstock Park, MI, 49321

Crossroads, PO Box 1245, Royal Oak, MI, 48068-1245

Friends North, Inc., PO Box 562, Traverse City, MI, 49685-0562

IME of Western Michigan, PO Box 1153, Grand Rapids, MI, 49501

MN
Beta Gamma, Tri-Ess, PO Box 8591, Minneapolis, MN, 55408

City of Lakes Crossgender Community, PO Box 14844, Minneapolis, MN, 55414

Gender Education Center, PO Box 1861,
Maple Grove, MN, 55311

MO

St. Louis Gender Foundation, PO Box 9433,
St. Louis, MO, 63117

MS

Beta Chi, Tri-Ess, PO Box 31253, Jackson, MS,
39286-1253

Southern Belle Society, PO Box 3112,
Gulfport, MS, 39505

NC

Carolina Transensual Alliance (CTA), 112
Edwardia, Charlotte, NC, 27409

Kappa Beta, Tri-Ess, PO Box 12101, Charlotte,
NC, 28220-2101

Phoenix Transgender Support, PO Box 18332,
Asheville, NC, 28814

Sigma Rho Delta Tri-Ess, PO Box 90141,
Raleigh, NC, 27675-0141

Triad Gender Association, PO Box 2264,
Jamestown, NC, 27282-2264

NE

River City Gender Alliance, PO Box 8076,
Omaha, NE 68108

NH

Tri-Ess New England, PO Box 7681, Nashua,
NH, 03060-7681

NJ

Chi Delta Mu, Tri-Ess, PO Box 1, River Edge,
NJ, 07661-0001

Epsilon Nu Gamma, PO Box 4, Three Bridges,
NJ, 8887

New Jersey Support, PO Box 9378, Trenton,
NJ, 8650

Sigma Nu Rho, Tri-Ess, PO Box 9255, Trenton,
NJ, 8650

NM

Phi (Fiesta), Tri-Ess, 8200 Montgomery NE,
#241, Albuquerque, NM, 87109

NV

Equinox, 8175 S Virginia, Suite 850-256,
Reno, NV, 89511-8981

TG Support, Community Counseling Center,
1120 Almond Tree Lane, Las Vegas, NV

NY

Buffalo Belles, PO Box 1701, Amherst, NY,
14226

CD*Network, PO Box 92055, Rochester, NY,
14692

CDI, 404 W40th #2, NYC NY 10018

CNY TransMenace, 405 Howard St, #1,
Syracuse, NY, 13203

Expressing Our Nature, Inc., c/o Pride
Community Center, PO Box 6608, 745 N
Salina St., Syracuse, NY, 13217-6608

Gender Identity Project at the Lesbian & Gay
Community Services Center, One Little West
12th Street, New York, NY, 10014

Lambda Chi Lambda, Tri-Ess, PO Box 1010,
Cooperstown, NY, 13326

LIFE, PO Box 1311, Watermill, NY, 11976-1311

Metropolitan Gender Network, 561 Hudson
St., Box 45, New York, NY, 10014

Rochester Transgender organization, C/O Gay
Alliance of the Genesee Valley, 179 Atlantic
Avenue, Rochester, NY, 14607

TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany, NY, 12212-3604

Transgender Network, PO Box 753, New
Paltz, NY, 12561

OH

Alpha Omega, PO Box 2053, Sheffield Lake,
OH, 44054-0053

Crossport, PO Box 1692, Cincinnati, OH,
45204

Crystal Club, PO Box 287, Reynoldsburg, OH,
43068-0287

It's Time Ohio!, PO Box 21310, Columbus,
OH, 43221

Paradise Club, PO Box 29564, Cleveland, OH,
44129

TransFamily of Cleveland, 2121 S Green Rd, S
Euclid, OH, 44121-3300

OK

Central Oklahoma Transgender Alliance, 3334
W. Main Ste. 203, Norman, OK, 73072

OR

Intermountain Transgender Outreach, 1524
Monroe Ave., La Grande, OR, 97850

Northwest Gender Alliance, PO Box 4928,
Portland, OR, 97208

Phoenix Rising Foundation, 620 SW 5th
Avenue Ste. 710, Portland, OR, 97204-1422

Rho Gamma, PO Box 5551, Grants Pass, OR,
97527

PA

Erie Sisters, 1903 West 8th St #261, Erie, PA,
16505

Renaissance - Lehigh Valley, PO Box 3624,
Allentown, PA, 18106

Renaissance, Greater Philadelphia, 987 Old
Eagle School Road, Suite 719, Wayne, PA,
19087

Renaissance, Lower Susquehanna Valley, PO
Box 2122, Harrisburg, PA, 17105-2122

Transplitt, PO Box 3214, Pittsburgh, PA, 15230
TSG (Transsexual Support Group), 6020 Penn
Circle South, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206

TN

Memphis TransGender Alliance, PO Box
11052, Memphis, TN, 38111-1052

Tennessee Vals, PO Box 92335, Nashville, TN,
37209

TX

Alpha Tau, PO Box 1398, Georgetown, TX,
78627

Austin Second Image, PO Box 679, Leander,
TX, 78641

Central Texas Transgender Society, PO Box
300487, Austin, TX, 78705

Epsilon Tau, Tri-Ess, PO Box 945, New
Waverly, TX, 77358

Gulf Coast Transgender Community, PO Box
90335, Houston, TX, 77090

Helping Cross Dressers Anonymous, 6804 E
Hiway 6 S #334, Houston, TX, 77083

ICTLEP, PO Drawer 35477, Houston, Texas,
77235-5477

Metroplex CD Club, PO Box 141924, Irving,
TX, 75014-1924

Nu Epsilon Tau, PO Box 14096, Pantego, TX,
76094

Spouses & Partners International Conference
for Education (SPICE), Peggy Rudd, c/o 8880
Bellaire B2 #104, Houston, TX, 77036

Tau Chi, Tri-Ess, 8800 Bellaire B2, Ste. 104,
Houston, TX

Texas Assoc. of Transsexuals (T.A.T.S.), PO
Box 142, Bellaire, TX, 77401

UT

An Engendered Species, PO box 11897, Salt
Lake City, UT, 84147

Western Transsexuals Support Network, 4667
Holladay Blvd, #2, Salt Lake City, UT, 84117

VA

Chi Epsilon Sigma tri-Ess, c/o PO Box 382,
Norge, VA, 2317-0382

Trans-Gender Education Association, PO Box
16036, Arlington, VA, 22215

VT

TRANS, PO Box 5687, Burlington, VT, 5402

WA

Bellingham Gender Group, PO Box 2004,
Bellingham, WA, 98227

Emerald City, PO Box 31318, Seattle, WA,
98103

Ingersoll Gender Center, 1812 E. Madison,
Suite 106, Seattle, WA, 98122-2843

WI

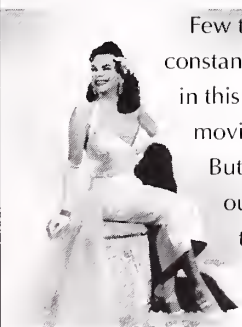
Gemini Gender Group, P.O.Box 44211,
Milwaukee, WI, 53214

Madison Transgender Group, 14W Mifflin St,
Madison, WI, 53704

WV

Trans-West Virginia, PO Box 2322,
Huntington, WV, 25724

The Queen is Dead! Long Live the Queen!



Few things are constant or stable in this fast moving world. But during our lifetime there's been one truth in the crossdressing community. One institution whose focus has remained constant since the first time you put on a pair of pantyhose; that was steadfast as the North Star even before the invention of pantyhose. That unchanging rock in the firmament was

Finocchio's, a nightclub "where the most beautiful women on stage are men." Finocchio's was in San Francisco "at the same location since 1936." But on November 27, 1999, after 63 years, Finocchio's chiseled off her make-up, hung up her tits, and went dark. San Francisco Poet Laureate Lawrence Ferlinghetti said it best, "What a drag."

The queen is dead! So, long live the queen! But who is she? Who inherits Finocchio's mantle of baubles, bangles and bugle beads? Which venue has the distinction of being the oldest showroom in America dedicated

to professional female impersonation? Have you been there? Is it in your hometown?

LadyLike and Transgender Forum are beginning a search. We want to discover who's been carrying the torch the longest. Which are the **three oldest clubs** featuring drag acts at least three nights a week, ten months a year. Is there a club in Atlanta? Maybe there's an older one in Seattle? Not a bar with an occasional show, this has to be a nightclub with tulle as its foundation.

Send us letters. Send us tips. We'll follow every lead you provide and sometime next year

LadyLike and Transgender Forum will run a series of articles, one on each of these venerable institutions. Join the search for community history! Send your nominations of old clubs to the old queens at LadyLike:

LadyLike/CDS
P.O. Box 61263
King of Prussia, PA 19406.



Resources

2001 Calendar of Events

May 2001

2 - 7, Fifth Annual Diva Las Vegas, A vacation, not a convention
<www.geekbabe.com/dlv/dlv2001/>.

June 2001

18 - 27, The Dignity Cruise 14, sailing the Tahitian Islands in the South Pacific. For info, contact: melpieg@pmpub.com or call Crystal Kaminsky 800-425-9553 ext. 2435, tell her you want to info on the Dignity 14 cruise.

July 2001

11 - 15, SPICE IX, Cleveland, Ohio, hosted by Alpha Omega Chapter. Hotel info: Clarion Cleveland Airport West, call 440-243-5200. SPICE Registration: contact nimue_enchantress@yahoo.com.

September 2001

17 - 23, Southern Comfort Conference 2001 at the Sheraton Colony Square Hotel, 188 14th Street NE at Peachtree. Write: P.O. Box 77591, Atlanta, GA 30357-1591 Call: (404) 633-6470 E-mail: info@sccatl.org.

November 2001

7 - 11, Paradise In The Poconos 2001, an extended weekend for CDs in the Pennsylvania Pocono mountains with parties, programs and lots of fun. Contact CDS, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406, or call 610-640-9449, or email: poco@cdspub.com.

15 - 17, Lake Erie Gala 2001, Erie, Pa. A fabulous three-day weekend of dressing, shopping, local tours and entertainment. Sponsored by the Erie Sisters Transgender Support Group. For more info write: ERIE SISTERS, 1903 West 8th St., PMB 261 Erie, PA 16505, or email to eriesisters@yahoo.com.

Dec 2001

2 - 8, 15th Dignity Cruise, sailing on the RCCL Rhapsody of the Seas from Galveston, Texas to the Caribbean. For info email to mermaidenC@aol.com.

If you have info on an event, email it to us at events@cdspub.com

The Transgender Fund

A grass-root, independent, national foundation aimed at helping the transgender community develop to its fullest. Our Select Initiatives focus the help where it's needed most. Our current initiatives are focused on Transgender Political Activism and the Delaware Valley Trans Youth Council Pilot Project.

If you have ever wondered how you could make a real concrete contribution to the community without risking your identity... this is it.

Donations in any denomination are gratefully accepted. The Transgender Fund is a 501[c][3] tax exempt corporation and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Consult your accountant for details.

***Make A Difference
Make A Donation
Make It Now!***

<http://www.tgfund.org>

**The TG Fund • PO Box 2132 • SE PA 19399
610-251-9111**

Show Us Your Hosiery!



▲ Jan, UK FWD#3723



▲ Carlotta Marie, PO Box 222,
Glenford NY 12433



▲ P.J., PO Box 9038,
Colorado Springs CO 80932



Sydney Boyd, 9006 Hwy 76S,
Stanton TN 38069-3622 ▼



◀ Barbara Roberts
PO Box 6372
Baltimore MD 21230

Donna, NJ
FWD#2422 ▼



Michelle, Ohio
▼ FWD#266



CDS Getaway Weekend For Crossdressers

November 7 – 11, 2001 — Come and enjoy a relaxing weekend at a private resort where your security, enjoyment and comfort are of primary concern. We've produced this event for over 10 years and our success is measured by the people who return time after time. The price for the weekend includes: 3 or 4 nights lodging, 9 or 12 meals, a cocktail reception, a Costume party, a fabulous Talent Show, Free workshops, tax and gratuity. We have our own DJ, makeup artists, hair stylist and nail technician.

Also attending are the great folks from **Glamour Boutique**, providing lingerie, wigs, stockings, shoes and just about anything else you could want or need. Come find out why Paradise In The Poconos is one of the best events you could attend, especially if you're just coming out. Write, call or email us for more information. Visit our WorldWide Web site and register online, or take a look at photos from the last weekend. Prices for 2001 start at \$460 (Thur. to Sun, double occupancy) and go up to \$715 (Wed. to Sun., single occupancy). Deposit of \$175 required to hold a reservation.μ



CDS • PO Box 61263
King of Prussia, PA • 19406
Voice: 610-640-9449 • FAX: 610-648-0257
<http://www.cdspub.com/poco.html>
poco@cdspub.com



Secrets *The Romance Boutique*

*Make the most of
your feminine
experience!
Visit our secure
Website for everything
a girl needs!*

Clothing and Lingerie To XXXL
Shoes, Boots & Slippers to Size 17
Wigs, Makeup and Nails
Full Selection of Silicone
Gaffs, Corsets and Hosiery
Books, Mags, Videos and More
Personal Shopping Service

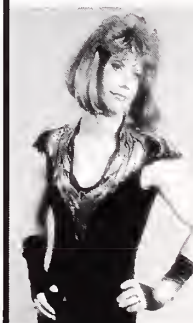
WWW.CROSS-DRESS.COM

4509 N Pine Island Rd Sunrise, FL 33351
954-748-5855 www.drag-queen.com
Phone Orders And Major Credit Cards

Rachel's Hair & Wig Salon

1833 West Irving Park Road
Chicago, Illinois 60613
773-528-6960

Visit us on the net
<http://www.geocities.com/rachelswigs/>
or contact us by email at:
msrachel@megsinet.net
We carry a full selection of:



**Wigs and Wig
Accessories
Jewelry &
Breast forms....
and we do
Professional
Makeovers**



How To Submit Photos

We **do not** accept digital photos by email. We also cannot use "photos" you have printed from an inkjet printer. We need real glossy photographs. If you include your mailing name and mailing address **on the back** of your photo, we will print your address with your photo in the magazine so people can write to you directly. **If you are a subscriber**, we'll forward mail for you for the length of your subscription. Write your customer number on your photos. **If you are NOT a subscriber**, include \$10 with your photo and we will forward mail to you for 1 year. **Note: Do not write** on the photos with ball point ink. Use a permanent marker.

How To Reply to Photos

If you want to write to someone whose picture appears in the magazine, look for an address and write directly. Or, look for a forwarding number like FWD9999 with the photo. If there is a FWD number, write your letter, put it in an envelope and **in pencil** write the FWD number on the front. For **each** letter to be forwarded, put your letter in its envelope, correct postage in stamps and \$2 in another envelope (#10 or larger) and mail it all to us here at *LadyLike* Magazine, c/o PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA 19406-1263.

How To Subscribe

LadyLike is the publication that treats the subjects of transvestism and crossdressing as they should be treated, with respect and sophistication. Chock full of great features and loads of photos, you won't want to miss a single issue. Every issue contains important and useful information to help you realize the "ladylike" qualities within yourself.

Subscription Rates:

U.S. - \$36; Canada/Mexico - \$48; Overseas - \$60

Single issues:

U.S. - \$13; Canada/Mexico - \$14; Overseas - \$15

Back Issues Available - 32, 34 - 37, 39 - 44

LadyLike Magazine, PO Box 61263, King of Prussia, PA USA 19406-1263



Enlarge Your Own Breasts

Proven to Work for Men

- Buy Direct from Manufacturer
- Extraordinary results
- Now you can grow your own breasts
- Up to 2 Full Cup Sizes!
- **100% Natural 100% Guaranteed**

Improve your Sex Life!

No need to use breast forms that move or fall out.

"NewCurves can give you the curves you've always wanted"

www.newcurves.com

#NC-C \$49 (1 month Cream)

#NC-P \$49 (1 month Capsules)

#NCP3 \$254 (3 months Cream & Capsules)***

No Hormones

No Estrogen

No Maintenance



Keeps Hair From Growing Back!

Tired of shaving, waxing and tweezing? This is one of our best products. If you are frustrated with unwanted hair, this product is for you. Hair No More with its exclusive plant extracts works at the root of your hair to inhibit growth. Use 4oz spray for legs, chest and back. Use 2oz gel for face, chin, upper lip, bikini, or eyebrows.

#HLT2001 Gel (2oz) \$29.00

#HLT2002 Spray (4oz) \$29.00

#SP1014 Gel & Spray \$51.00

Open Ended Support

You've Never Owned Anything Like This Before!

Designed to give you a lift and natural, feminine shape, this garment is one of a kind. Extremely comfortable and sexy. Smooths tummy too. Beige. Sizes 23"- 46". Black. Sizes 23"-32" only.

#L104 \$38.95 (2 for \$72.00)

www.casademaria.com





Padded Panty Fits & Separates

Body shaper brief. The smoothest padded brief on the market. No unnatural bulging or sharp edges. No one can tell you are wearing it! Has removable foam pads. Beige, Size: 25"-38".

#L103 \$18 (2 for \$30)

www.casademaria.com

Send your order to: **CDM, PO Box 572643, Tarzana, CA, 91357**

Call Toll **FREE**

1-888-708-2889

or 1-818-708-1030

Fax 818-345-5162

Item#	Qty	Color	Price	Total

Name: _____

Address _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Tel: _____

Sub-Total

S & H

CA Tax*

TOTAL

*Orders Shipped Confidential

*Personal checks delay orders by 10 business days.

*CA orders add 8.25% tax

Make Checks/Money Orders payable to: **CDM**

Credit Card # _____

Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Shipping & Handling

Up to \$50	\$5.95
\$50.01 - \$75.00	\$7.95
\$70.01 - \$100.00	\$9.95
\$100.01 - \$300.00	\$12.95

Mirror

Staff Favorites



▲ Tiffany Michelle, Va. FWD#2281
tiffmich_2000@yahoo.com



◀ Foxy Roxy,
521 Merriman Dr.
El Paso TX 79912

▶ Linda Lewis, SoCal
lindalewis@yahoo.com

Jeri Jones, PO Box 9215
SLC UT 84109 ▼



▲ Lauri Ann

Telzey Adams, PO Box 195
Berkeley CA 94701-0195 ▼



Laura Covington, ▶
PO Box 10431
Oakland CA 94610

Dee Gregory, Fla. ▼





▲ Your Pocono Hostess JoAnn Roberts in costume. Betty Roberts photo.

Morgan Stevens, now a columnist for TGForum ▼



▲ The cast of the Phantasie Pholliez sings "God Bless America" led by Denise Mason. Photo by Denise Mason



Check this out! This is the hotel staff. That's the owner in the middle. The two cuties on the ends are both guys! One of them is the Banquet Manager. ▼

Pocono Preview (more next issue)

Clockwise from the left: Diane Boykin, Cheryl & Joyce Hudson, Rachel Simms, & Susan. Diane Boykin photo. ▼



▲ Sandy K, Princess of the Poconos 2000. Denise Mason Photo.



Denise Mason Photo.

On My Mind...



Well, I hate to say this but... I told you so.

GenderPAC has forced out its three most senior transgendered board members, purged the word "transgender" from its lexicon (and its website) and redefined its mission so broadly

that it's nearly impossible to understand who or what they intend to work toward. Well, as a good and politically astute friend once remarked, "You get the leadership you deserve."

And that's the focus of this screed, leadership. We don't have any to speak of in this community. One has only to look back to 1995 and the outlook for the transgender community was bright and golden. Our major national organizations were actually working together on several fronts. The spirit of collaboration was so great that in November of 1996 the representatives of twelve transgender organizations came together to create GenderPAC, with the purpose of working to retain civil rights for all transgendered people.

However, from the very beginning of GenderPAC's existence, it created stress and tension among its founders rather than harmony. A major portion of the blame for that goes to Riki Wilchins, executive director of GenderPAC. Ms. Wilchins style of management and manner of conducting business is divisive and not conducive to community building. The rest of the blame goes to those who blindly supported GenderPAC without understanding how that support was driving apart the rest of the community.

By the time we had reached 1999, hardly any of the national organizations were talking to each other, much less working together. For example, while the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) was initially listed as a sponsor of the Fourth International Congress on Sex and Gender, it actually did nothing in regard to planning or conducting the activity. (I'm not

picking on IFGE, but it does illustrate my point.)

So, instead of growing together, our organizations and the community at large have grown apart. Since 1995 we've lost two major organizations: the International Conference on Transgender Law & Employment Policy (ICTLEP) and the American Educational Gender Information Service (AEGIS).

Since 1995 we've seen the rise of the Internet as a major communication tool among all people, but especially for alternative lifestyle minorities like transgendered people. A side-effect of the Internet has been a decline in membership among the national transgender organizations. Many t-people no longer feel they need to attend real meetings because they have virtual meetings online. And, as many of the social pundits have noted, the more time spent online, the less time spent in the real world working real problems.

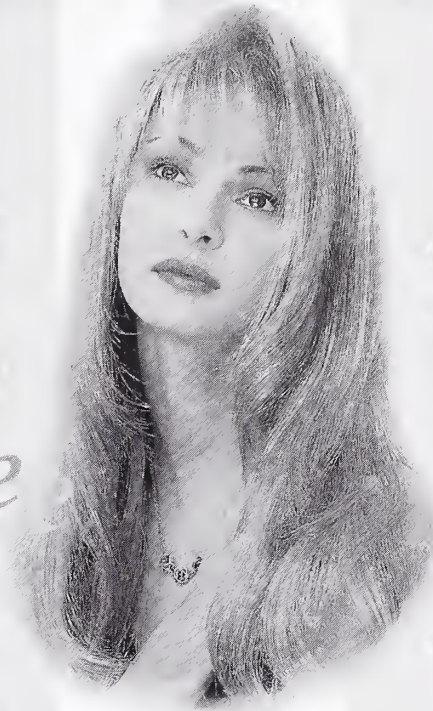
Today, in the year 2001, on the edge of a new year, a new century, and a new millennium, the transgender community is without focus and without leadership. There is no moral compass to point the way. But all is not lost and there are many who still have hope.

By the time you read this, there will have been a political "summit" meeting held in Chicago called by some of the very people GenderPAC disenfranchised. The purpose of the meeting is to map out a new political strategy and perhaps anoint a new political organization to represent the transgender community. If egos can be held in check, if the needs of the community can be put before the needs of any one organization, then maybe we have a chance to recapture that golden moment from 1996 when GenderPAC was created. Maybe we have a chance to move the transgender community forward toward consensus and reach our full potential as a political force. It's been done before. We can do it again

Stay frosty!.



*The Best
Prices
Quality
Service*



- ◆ Wigs
- ◆ Shoes
- ◆ Dresses
- ◆ Breast Forms
- ◆ Corsets
- ◆ Jewelry



◆ Safe, Secure Shopping

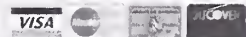
The Glamour Boutique is the Internet's premiere clothing store. We offer safe, secure shopping on -line or at our two retail locations. Our goal is to provide the best quality merchandise for our customers at the lowest price.

We offer discreet shipping and never sell our customer mailing lists.

Glamour Boutique
www.glamourboutique.com

850 Southbridge St. • Auburn, MA 01501 • 508-721-7800

• toll free: 1-888-721-8688 • fax: 508-347-2427 • e-mail: jwarrener@aol.com



The Best Online Resource.



Hands down, TGForum is the best, most comprehensive, most up to date TG resource on the net today.

Where else will you get 50 weeks of compelling news, advice, and entertainment? In a word, nowhere, because no one provides the breadth and depth of content that TGForum does!

Plus, we offer resources second to none. Want to know where to buy... anything? Visit our Shopping mall. Want your own private email account or a personal web page? We offer that, too, no extra charge. All this for \$0.75 a week? You better believe it! Check out the free edition, then subscribe to get to all the goodies.

www.tgforum.com

TGForum is brought to you by 3-D Communications, Inc., a transgender owned and operated web presence. Contact us about getting your organization or business on the WorldWide Web. [webmaster@tgforum.com]

All the news you want... all the information you need... and a place to call home!